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## (54) TOLL-LIKE RECEPTOR 5 LIGANDS AND METHODS OF USE

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claimer.

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	C07K 14/25	(2006.01)
	C07K 14/20	(2006.01)
	C07K 14/32	(2006.01)
	C07K 14/33	(2006.01)
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	A61P 37/04	(2006.01)
	C07K 14/28	(2006.01)
	C07K 14/245	(2006.01)
	A61K 39/00	(2006.01)
		. ,

(52) U.S. Cl.

(2013.01)

(58) Field of Classification Search

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### (57) ABSTRACT

The invention provides methods to elicit an immune response with an immunomodulatory flagellin polypeptide having toll-like receptor 5 (TLR5) binding, and further comprising an ADCC targeting molecule.

### 8 Claims, 18 Drawing Sheets

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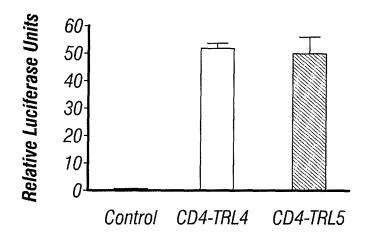
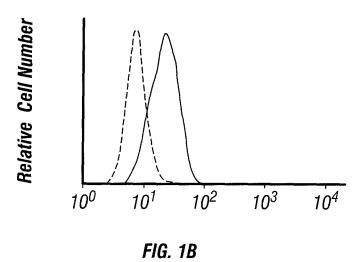
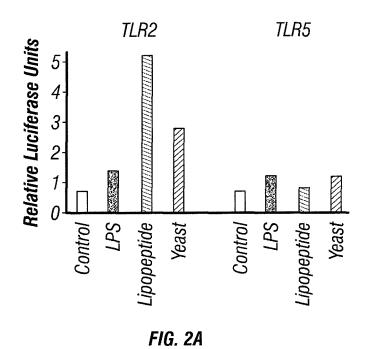
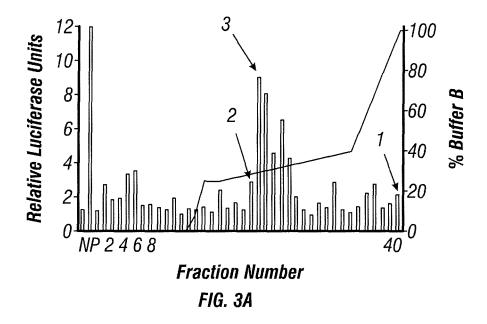


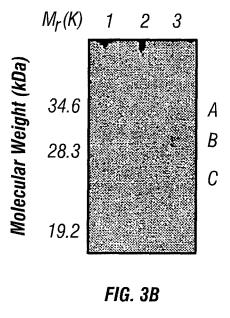
FIG. 1A

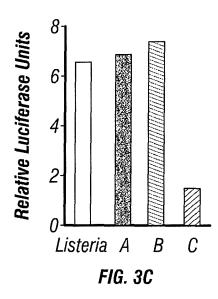




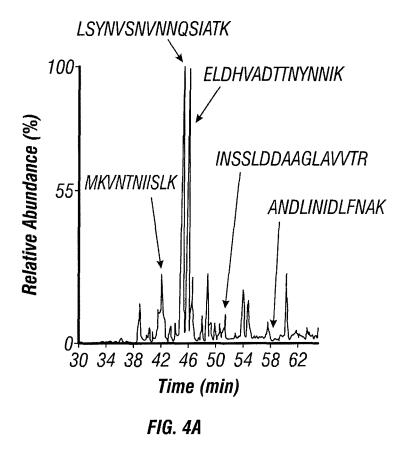
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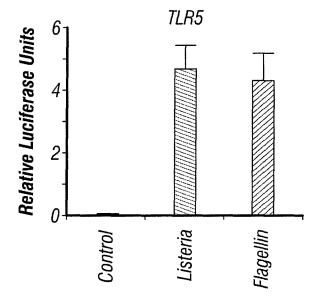


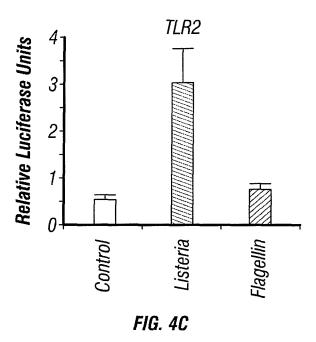
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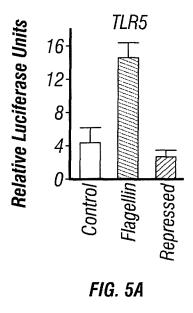


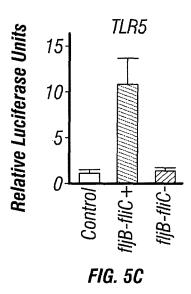
MKVNTNIISLKTQEYLRKNNEGMTQAQERLASGKRINSSLDD
AAGLAVVTRMNVKSTGLDAASKNSSMGIDLLQTADSALSSMS
SILQRMRQLABQSSNGSFSDEDRKQYTAEFGSLIKELDHVAD
TTNYNNIKLLDQTATGAATQVSIQASDKANDLINIDLFNAKG
LSAGTITLGSGSTVAGYSALSVADADSSQEATEAIDELINNI
SNGRALLGAGMSRLSYNVSNVNNQSIATKASASSIEDADMAA
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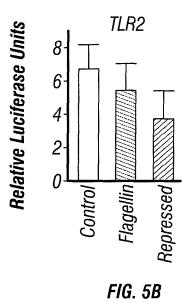
FIG. 4B

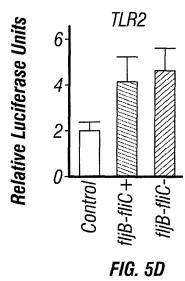












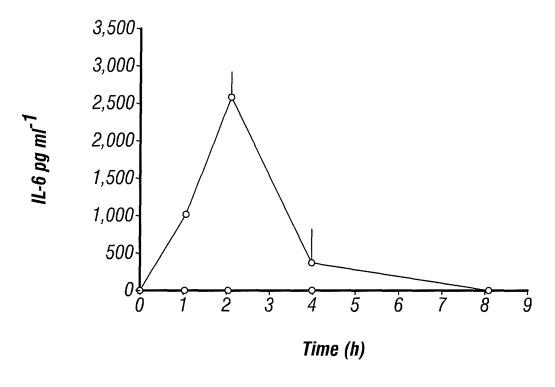


FIG. 6

MTINVNTNVSAMTAQRYLTKATGELNT*SM*ERLSSGNRINSAKDDAAGLQISNRLTAQSRG MALT VNTN IASLNTQRMINNSSASINTSLQRIS TGSRINSAKDDAAG LQIANRLTSQVNG -MTT**INTN**IGAIAAQANMTKVNDQFNTAMT*RLST*GLRINAAKDDAAGMAIGEKMTAQVMG MAQVINTNYLSLVTQNNLNKSQGTLGSA*I*ERLSSGLRINSAKDDAAGQAIANRFTS*NV*NG MAQVINTNYLSLVTQNNLNRSQSALGNA*I*ERLSSGMRINSAKDDAAGQAIANRFTS*NI*NG MAQVINTNSLSLITQNNLNKSQSALGTA*I*ERLSSGLRINSAKDDAAGQAIANRFT*ANIK*G MAQVINTNSL*S*IM**AQ**NN**I**NKS*Q*SS**L**GTA*I*ERLSSGLRINSAKDDAAGQAI*S*NRFT*ANIK*G MAQVINTNSLSLITQNNINKNQSALSS*SI*ERLSSGLRINSAKDDAAGQAIANRFTS*NIK*G MAQVINTNSLSLITQNNINKNQSALSS*SI*ERLSSGLRINSAKDDAAGQAIANRFTS*NIK*G --MIINHNMSAMFAQRTLGHTWQVGKGIEKLSSGYRINRAGDDASGLAVSEKMRSQIRG --MIINHNMSAMFAQRTLGNTNLSVQKNMEKLSSGLRINRAGDDASGLAVSEKMRSQIRG --MIINHNLSAVNAHRSLKFNELAVDK*TM*KA**lssg**mrinsaadda*sglavsekirtq*vn**g** --MI**In**hntsa*i*nasrnnginaan**l**sk*t*qektssgyrinrasddaagmgvsgkinaqir**g** --MR**in**hn*iaalntinrissnnsasokn<i>m*e*k***issgir**inr**a**g**ddaag**lai*s*e*km*rg*qir***g** --MRV**ntn**VS**al**i**a**nn*om*grnvsgosk*sm*e*k*lssglrikraaddaaglaise*km*ra*olk*g -MTSILTNNSAMAALSTLRSISSSMEDTQSR*iss*glrvgsasdnaayw*s*iattmrsdnqa --MKVNTNIISLKTQEYLRKNNEGMTQAQERLASGKRINSSLDDAAGLAVVTRMNVKSTG MAFQVNTN INAMNAHV QSALT QNALKT SLERLSSGLRINKAADDA SGMTVADS LRS QASS MAQVINTNSLSLITQNNLNKSQSALGTA*I*ERLSSGLRINSAKDDAAGQAIANRFT*ANIK*G -MASILTNNNAMAALSTLRSIASDLST*TQDRISSGLKV*GSASDNAAYWSIATTMRSDN*K*A -MASVLTNINAMSALQTLRSISSNMEDTQSR*ISSGM*RVGSASDNAAYWSIATTMRSDNAS MGTS LLTNKSAMTALQTLRSIDANLDRSKDRVSTGLRISNAS ENTAYW SISSMMRHDSNT MGFRINTNVAALNAKANADLNSKSLDA*SLSRLSSGLRINSAADDASGMAIADT<i>L*R**S**QANT slerlssGlrinsa ddaagmaia rl sqvrg b nl k a E L.monocytogenes S.typhimurium2 B.clarridgeiae S.typhimurium1 B.burgdorferei R. sphaeroides L.pneumophila A.tumefaciens P.aeruginosa P.mirabilis2 P.mirabilis1 S.marcesens T.pallidumA T.pallidumB C.difficile V.cholerae B.subtilus S.flexneri R.meliloti consensus H.pylori C.jejuni R.lupini E.coli

## FIG. 7AJ

C.jejuni	61 <b>L</b> G <b>QA</b> I	LGQAISNGNDAIG <i>ILQTADKA</i> MDEQLK <i>I</i> LDT <i>IK</i> TKATQAAQDGQSLKTRTMLQADINR
H.pylori	- •	LGQAIANTNDGMGIIQVADKAMDEQLKILDTVKVKATQAAQDGQTTESRKAIQSDIVR
V.cholerae		LDVAMRNANDGIS IAQTAEGAMNESTS ILQRMRDLALQSANGTNSASERQALNEESVA
P.aeruginosa	•	LNVA <i>tk</i> nandgis <i>l</i> a <b>qtaegal</b> qqstn <i>i</i> l <b>qr</b> mpdesl <b>q</b> sang <i>sn</i> sds <i>er</i> ta <i>ln</i> geak <b>q</b>
R.sphaeroides	60 LNQAI	LNQAIRNAQDGKNLVDTTEGAHVEVSSMLQRLRELAVQSSNDTNTAADRGSLAAEGKQ
P.mirabilis1	•	LTQASRNANDGISIAQTTEGALNEINNNLQRIRELTVQAKNGTNSNSDITSIQNEVKN
P.mirabilis2		LTQASRNANDGISVSQTTEGALNEINNNLQRIRELTVQAKNGTNSNSDINSIQNEVNQ
S.typhimurium2		LTQASRNANDGISIAQTTEGALNEINNNLQRVRELAVQSANSTNSQSDLDSIQAEITQ
S.typhimurium1	• •	LTQASRNANDGISIAQTTEGALNEINNNLQRVRELAVQSANSTNSQSDLDSIQAEITQ
S.marcesens		LTQASRNANDGISLAQTTEGALNEVNDNLQNIRRLTVQAQNGSNSTSDLKSIQDEITQ
E.coli		LTQAARNANDGISVAQTTEGALSEINNNLQRIRELTVQATTGTNSDSDLDSIQDEIKS
S.flexneri		LTQAARNANDGISVAQTTEGALSEINNNLQRIRELTVQASTGTNSDSDLDSIQDEIKS
T.pallidumA		LNQASTNASNGVNF IQVTEAYLQETTD IMQRIRELA IQAANGIYSAEDRMQIQVEVSQ
T.pallidumB		LNQASTNAQMGISFIQVAESYLQETTDVIQRIRELSVQSANGIYSAEDRMYIQVEVSQ
L.pneumophila		LRQAERNTEDGMSFIQTAEGFLEQTSN <i>II</i> QRIRVLA <i>I</i> QTSNGIYSNEDRQL <i>V</i> QVE <i>V</i> SA
B.burgdorferei	•	LSQASRNTSKAINF /QTTEGNLNEVEK /LVRMKELAVQSGNGTYSDADRGSIQIE / IEQ
B.subtilus		LEMASKNSQDGISLIQTAEGALTETHAILQRVRELVVQAGNTGTQDKATDLQSIQDEISA
C.difficile		LDQAGRNVQDGISVVQTAEGALEETGN <i>T</i> LTRMRTLAVQASNET <i>N</i> SKD <i>ER</i> AKIAGEMEQ
R.meliloti	-	LSAVQDALGLGAAK <i>V</i> D <b>ta</b> y <i>S GM</i> ESAIE <i>VV</i> KE <b>I</b> <i>K</i> AKL <b>V</b> A <b>A</b> TEDGV <b>D</b> <i>K</i> AK <b>IQEE</b> IT <b>Q</b>
A.tumefaciens		LGAV SDALGMGAAK VDTAS AGMDAA I K VVT DI KAKV <b>v</b> aake QGv <b>d</b> ktk v <b>qee</b> vs <b>q</b>
R.lupini		LSAVQDAIGLGAAK VDTASAGMDAVID VVKQIKNKLVTAQESSADKTKIQGEVKQ
L.monocytogenes	59 LDAAS	LDAASKNSSMGIDLLQTADSALSSMSS <i>I</i> LQRMRQLAVQSSNGSFSDEDRKQYTAEFGS
B.clarridgeiae	61 MSAIV	MSAIVDAINL <b>G</b> KEQVGI <b>A</b> DT <b>A</b> IGLTKEA <b>L</b> DD <b>I</b> QKSM <b>VSA</b> REKGSD <b>D</b> IAK <b>IQ</b> DS <i>I</i> IG
consensus	61 l gat	gatrnandgisilgtaegal e ilgrirdl vga ng tgs dr ig ei g

C.jejuni		LMEELDNIANTTSFNGKQLLSGNFINQEFQIGASSN-QTVKATIGATQSSKIGLTRFETG
H.pylori	19	LIQGLDNIGNTTTYNGQALLSGQFTNKEFQVGAYSN-QS <i>I</i> KAS <i>I</i> GSTTSDK <i>IG</i> QVRIATG
V.cholerae	19	LQ <i>deln</i> riaettsfggrklingsfgeasf <b>q</b> igsssg-eaimgltsvraddfr
P.aeruginosa	19	LQKELDRISNTTTFGGRKLLDGSFGVASFQVGSAAN-EI ISVGIDEMSAESINGTYFKAD
R.sphaeroides	78	LIAEINRVAESTTFNGMKVLDGSFTGKQLQIGADSG-QTMAINVDSAAATD <i>IG</i> A
P.mirabilis1	19	VLDEINRISEQTQFNGVKVLSGEKSEMVIQVGTNDN-ET <i>I</i> KFNLDKVDNDT <i>LGV</i> ASDK <i>LF</i>
P.mirabilis2	19	R <i>ldein</i> rvseq <b>tofng</b> <i>vkv</i> ls <b>g</b> ekskmti <b>q</b> <i>v</i> <b>c</b> tndn-ev <i>i</i> efn <i>l</i> dk <i>i</i> dndtlgvasdk <i>l</i> f
S.typhimurium2	119 RI	R <i>in<b>eidr</b>usgo<b>t</b>ofngvkvl</i> a-qdntlti <b>q</b> <i>u</i> <b>g</b> andg-et <i>i</i> did <i>l</i> kq <i>i</i> nsqt <i>lgl</i> dsln <i>u</i> q
S.typhimurium1	13	R <i>in<b>eidr</b>ungo<b>t</b>ofsgvkvl</i> a-qdntlti <b>q</b> v <b>g</b> andg-et <i>i</i> did <i>i</i> kq <i>i</i> nsqt <i>lgl</i> dtinvq
S.marcesens	19 R	LSEINRISEQTDFNGVKVLS-SDQKLTIQVGANDG-ETTDIDLKKIDAKQLGMDTFDVT
E.coli	19	R <i>ldeidr</i> vsgo <b>tofng</b> vn <b>vl</b> s-kdgsmki <b>q</b> v <b>g</b> andg-et <i>i</i> tid <i>l</i> kk <i>i</i> dsdt <i>i</i> nlagfnvn
S.flexneri	19	R <i>ldeidrv</i> sgo <b>tofn</b> Gvn <i>v</i> la-kdgsmki <b>Q</b> <i>v</i> <b>g</b> andg-Qt <i>i</i> tid <i>l</i> kk <i>i</i> dsdt <i>lgi</i> ngfn <i>v</i> n
T.pallidumA	17	LVAEVDRIASSAQFNGMNLLTGRFSRTEGENVIGGSMWFH
T.pallidumB	17	LVAEIDRIASHAQFNGMNALTGRFARETGENTVTASMWFH
L.pneumophila	17	LVDEVDRIASQAEFNKFKLFEGQFARGSRVASMWFH
B.burgdorferei	17	LTDEINRIADQAQYNQMHMLSNKSASQNVRTAEELGMQPAKINTPASLSGSQASWTLRVH
B.subtilus	19	LTDEIDGISNRTEFNGKKLLDGTYKVDTATPANQKNLVFQ
C.difficile	17	LRSEVDRIADSTKFNGENLLS-SDKKIALQVGAEAVSNNVIEVS
R.meliloti	15	LKDQLTSIAEAASFSGENWLQADLSGGPVTKSVVGGFVRDSSGAVSVKKVDYSINTDTVL
A.tumefaciens	15	LLDQLKSIGTSASFNGENWLVSSANATKTVVSGFVRDAGGTVSVKTTDYALDANSML
R.lupini	15	LQEQLKGIVDSASFSGENWLKGDLS-TTTTKSVVGSFVRE-GGTVSVKTIDYALNASKVL
L.monocytogenes	17	LIKELDHVADTTNYNNIKLLDQTATGAAT <b>Q</b> VSIQASDKANDLIN <i>I</i> D
B.clarridgeiae	17	NMKN <b>i</b> snavosas <b>f</b> g <b>g</b> kn <i>i</i> lsnggqtvgmaa <b>g</b> yrregta <i>v</i> yvd <i>m</i> td <i>v</i> ggse <i>l</i> nfgtigsd
consensus	21	lmeeidria t fngmkll g qig v i v igl l

# FIG. 784

C.jejuni H.pylori V.cholerae P.aeruginosa R.sphaeroides P.mirabilis1 P.mirabilis2 S.typhimurium2	78 G M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M
S.marcesens E.coli S.flexneri	1// TKSAKAGAETATG
T.pallidumA T.pallidumB	57 IGANMDQRTRAY
L.pneumophila B.burgdorferei B.subtilus	153 MGPNQNQRERFY
C.difficile R.meliloti	60 LINTKGVLTT75 FDTTGNTGILDK
A.tumefaciens R.lupini	172 YTEG
L.monocytogenes B.clarridgeiae consensus	163 LFNAKGLSAG

FIG. 7BI

C.jejuni H.pylori V.cholerae P.aeruginosa	234 234 190 197	FTVETRGIAAVRAGATSDTFAINGVKIGKVDYKDGDANGALVAAINSVKDTTGVEASIDA ASVITTSDVAVQSGSLSNLTLNGIHLGNIADIKKNDSDGRLVAAINAVTSETGVEAYTDQ PTARDLKFEFTKK
K.sphaeroldes P.mirabilis1 P.mirabilis2	191	
		ATDGTVTLAAGATKTTMPAGA DKTNGEVTLAAVTPATVTTAT
S.marcesens	9	
E.coli	$\mathcal{C}$	DVGFGAAAPGTPVEYTYHKDTNTYTASASVDATQLAAFLNPEAGGTTAATVSIGNG
S.flexner1 T.pallidumA	231 169	INNGFGTAASATNYKYDSASKS-YSFDTTTASAADVQKYLTPGVGDTAKGTTTTLDGS 
T.pallidumB	9	
L.pneumophila	165	IGTMTSKA
B.burgdorferei	$\infty$	IYAANVAN
B.subtilus		IEDMGADA
C.difficile	7	
R.meliloti	9	VSQASVTLPVNV
A.tumefaciens		[
R.lupini	192	LNANTVTVDINK
L.monocytogenes	173	
B.clarridgeiae	196	DEGEDVVGKGIGA
consensus	241	

FIG. 7C/

C.jejuni H.pylori	294	NGQLLLTSREGRGIKIDGNIGGGA KGRLNLRSIDGRGIEIK	KDILISG QDLTKGS
V.cholerae P.aerudinosa		DGEAVVLDIIAKDGD KGNETAEOAAAKIAAAVND	
7			
P.mirabilis1	202	AATLDMMVSLVKEFNLDG	FIVTKGGKD
P.mirabilis2	202	GSKKYVTGISVKEYKVDG	VVLNDGSDD
S.typhimurium2	288	KDTPAVVSADAKNALIAGGV	DATDANGAELVKMSYTDKNGKTIEGGYALKAGDK
S.typhimurium1	281	NPDSDIAKAALTAAGVTG	TASVVKMSYTDNNGKTIDGGLAVKVGDD
S.marcesens	199	TKQADADVTGLAKG	TDADGKSA
E.coli	297	QEQKVIIAKDGSLTAADDG	AALYLDDTGNLSKTN-AGTDTQAKLS
S.flexneri	287	-AQDVQISSDGKITASNG	DKLYIDTTGRLTKNGSGASLTEASLS
T.pallidumA	177	Γβ	
T.pallidumB	177	T.G	
L.pneumophila	173	LK	
B.burgdorferei	197	LFSGEGAQAAQTAPVQEGA	
B.subtilus	179	LGIKEADG	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
C.difficile	180	SM	
R.meliloti	202	NGTTSEYTVGAYNVDDLID	ASATFDGDYANVGAGALAGDYVKVQG
A.tumefaciens	177		
R.lupini	204	GGVITQASVRAYSTDEMLS	LGAKVDGANSNVAVGGGSAFVKVDGS
L.monocytogenes	173		
B.clarridgeiae	209	FSAAHATYKGLEDTLRN	AEADLAKAIAKYGESPEDEPGKAI
consensus	301		

FIG. 7CE

.jejuni 354 ATQFISQASVSLRESKGQIDANIADAMGFGSANKGVVLGGYSSVSAYMSSAGSGFSSGSGpylori 344 RLDAKSINVVSASDSQQHLGFTAIGFGESQV .cholerae 232 LFKASVDQEGKLQ	lis1 235 lis2 235 urium2 342 urium1 327	227 YFIATKDDATGDV	ila 179	iens iens ogenes geiae
C.jejuni H.pylori V.cholera P.aerugir R.sphaerc	P.mirabil P.mirabil S.typhimu S.typhimu	S.marceser E.coli S.flexneri T.pallidum	T.pallidu L.pneumop B.burgdor B.subtilu C.diffici	R.meliloti A.tumefaci R.lupini L.monocyto B.clarridg

FIG. 704

C.jejuni H.pylori V.cholerae	4 Y 4 A 8 I
P.aeruginosa	269 GSTGVGTAAGVAPSA
K.spnaeroldes P.mirabilis1	60
P.mirabilis2	261 TKFTADAGKDVKVLN
S.typhimurium2	
S.typhimurium1	352 SKTALNKLGGADGKTEVVTIDGKTYNAS
S.marcesens	10
E.coli	CO
S.flexneri	$\Box$
T.pallidumA	$\circ$
T.pallidumB	ത
L.pneumophila	$\infty$
B.burgdorferei	4
B.subtilus	$\overline{}$
C.difficile	$\infty$
R.meliloti	286 APASIATIDITIAAQ
A.tumefaciens	OJ
R.lupini	302 NLTQSVLTMDVSSMS
L.monocytogenes	18
B.clarridgeiae	
consensus	421

# FIG. 7DE

C.jejuni	9	
H.pylori	414	VTTLRGAMWVIDIAES <b>A</b> MK
V.cholerae	270	
P.aeruginosa	284	BARAGDRTTAIK
R.sphaeroides		
P.mirabilis1	274	VKDDALATI <b>DKA</b> IN
P.mirabilis2		VKDDALATL <b>DNA</b> IS
S.typhimurium2	396	
S.typhimurium1		
S.marcesens		VKNPLATL <b>D</b> K <b>A</b> LA
E.coli	422	AEYFAQADGTITSGENAATSKAIYVSANGNLTTNTTSESEATTNP <i>LAALDDAIA</i>
S.flexneri		LTTSDTVDFYLQDDGSVTNGSGKAVYKDADGKLTTDAETKAATTADPLKALDEAIS
T.pallidumA	9	KS IGT IDAALK
T.pallidumB	9	RAIGTLDEAIK
L.pneumophila	9	DVIGLADAALT
B.burgdorferei	4	TSJAKIENAIR
B.subtilus	$\vdash$	AQLKVVDEAIN
C.difficile	0	KMIVNLDSSLA
R.meliloti	0	AGNLDALIAGVDEALT
A.tumefaciens		TDDLDNALYSVETALT
R.lupini	317	STDVGSYLTGVEKALT
L.monocytogenes		SSQEATEAIDELIN
B.clarridgeiae		LGELHSDIQRMIMTSVQNTVRDAVN
consensus	481	m id am

FIG. 7E/

C.jejuni	495	NLDQI <b>ra</b> d <i>igsv</i> <b>qn</b> qvtst <i>i</i> nn <i>i</i> tvtqv <b>n</b> vk <b>a</b> ae <b>s</b> q <b>i</b> rdv <b>d</b> f <b>aae</b> sa <i>ny s</i> <b>k</b> a <i>n</i> <b>ilaq</b> s <i>gs</i>
H.pylori		MLDKVRSDLGSVQNQMISTVNNISITQVNVKAAESQIRDVDFAEESANFNKNNTLAQSGS
V.cholerae	302	- 1
P.aeruginosa		QIDASVPTSV <b>avonr</b> fdntin <b>nl</b> knig <b>en</b> vs <b>a</b> arg <b>ried</b> tdf <b>aae</b> ta <i>nlit</i> kn <b>o</b> v <b>loo</b> agt
R.sphaeroides		
P.mirabilis1	288	TIDESRSKLGAIQNRFESTINNLNNTVNNLSASRSRILDADYATEVSNMSRGOILOOAGT
P.mirabilis2	290	
S.typhimurium2	429	QVDALRSDLGAVQNRFNSAJTNLGNTVNNLSEARSRIEDSDYATEVSNMSRAQILQQAGT
S.typhimurium1	$\vdash$	QVDTLRSDLGAVQNRFNSA ITNLGNTVNNLS SARSRIEDSDYATEVSNMSRAQILQQAGT
•	_	QVDGLRSSLGAVQNRFDSVINNLNSTVNNLSASQSRIQDADYATEVSNMSRANILQQAGT
E.coli		S IDKF <b>r</b> SS <b>lga i Qnr</b> i dsa vit <b>ni</b> nnttt <b>ni</b> se ao <b>sri</b> q <b>dad</b> y <b>a</b> t <b>e</b> v <i>snms</i> <b>k</b> a <b>q i iqq</b> agn
S.flexneri	<u></u>	S IDKFRSS <b>lgavonr</b> idsavininnttiniseao <b>sri</b> o <b>dad</b> y <b>a</b> te <i>vsnm</i> ska <b>o</b> i i <b>oo</b> agn
•	209	RINKQ <b>ra</b> d <b>lg</b> gy <b>onr</b> meytwgldiaa <i>e</i> <b>nl</b> q <b>a</b> ae <b>sri</b> r <b>da</b> ni <b>a</b> k <i>om</i> vey <i>t</i> <b>k</b> n <b>q</b> v <b>l</b> t <b>q</b> s <b>g</b> t
T.pallidumB	0	KINKQRADLGAYQNRLEYTVIGVNVAAENLQAAESRIRDVDMAKEMVDYTKNQILVQSGT
L.pneumophila	0	KIMKQRADMGAYYNRLEYTAKGLMGAY <i>ENM</i> QASE <b>SRIRDADMAEE</b> WVSL <i>T</i> TK <b>QIL</b> V <b>Q</b> SG <i>T</i>
B.burgdorferei	2	MISDQ <b>ra</b> n <b>lgafqnr</b> lesikdsteyai <i>e</i> <b>nl</b> kasyaq <b>ikda</b> tmtd <b>e</b> waa <i>t</i> tns <b>il</b> t <b>q</b> sam
B.subtilus	$\sim$	QVSSQ <b>ra</b> k <b>lga<i>v</i>onr</b> <i>le</i> ht <i>i</i> n <b>nl</b> sasg <i>e</i> <b>nl</b> taae <i>s</i> rirdvdm <b>a</b> k <i>em</i> se <i>ft</i> knn <b>il</b> s <b>q</b> asq
C.difficile	204	DINSA <b>rallga</b> o <b>onr</b> leston <b>ni</b> nntve <b>n</b> vt <b>a</b> ae <b>sri</b> rdt <b>dva</b> s <b>e</b> <i>mvnls</i> kmn <b>il</b> v <b>o</b> aso
R.meliloti	$\overline{}$	DMTSAAASLGSISSRIDLQSDFVNKLSDSIDSGVGRLVDADMNEESTRLKALQTQQQLAI
A.tumefaciens	$\sim$	KMTSAGAKLGSLSARIDLQSGFADKLSDTIEKGVGRLVDADMNEESTKLKALQTQQQLAI
R.lupini	333	SLTSAGAELGSIKQRIDLQVDFASKLGDALAKGIGRLVDADMNEESTKLKALQTQQQLAI
L.monocytogenes	209	NISNGRALLGAGMSRISYNVSNVNNQSIATKASASSIEDADMAAEMSEMTKYKILTQTSI
B.clarridgeiae	321	VTLTAGSKIGAAVNLVNIQLNFVKKLLDNVEVGIGALVDADMNAESAKLAALQVQQQLGI
consensus	541	l ra lgavqnrvd i nl enl aa sri dad a evtnlsk qilqq gs

## FIG. 7E

C.jejuni	555	YA <i>M</i> AQANSVHQ <i>N</i> VLRLLQ
H.pylori	493	YA <i>MS<b>QAN</b>TVQ<b>Q</b>NI<b>L</b>R<b>LL</b>T</i>
V.cholerae	362	S <i>I<b>LAQA</b>K<b>Q</b>LPN</i> SA <i>I<b>SLL</b>Q</i>
P.aeruginosa	377	A I LAQANQ L PQ SVLSLLR
R.sphaeroides		
P.mirabilis1	348	SVLAQANQ $V$ PQ $TV$ LSLLR
P.mirabilis2	350	AVLAQANQVPQTVLSLLR
S.typhimurium2	489	SVLAQANQVPQNVLSLLR
S.typhimurium1	473	SVLAQANQVPQNVLSLLR
S.marcesens	334	SVLAQANQSTQNVLSLLR
E.coli	536	SVLAKANQVPQQVLSLQQG-
S.flexneri	532	SVLAKANQVPQQVLSLLQG-
T.pallidumA	269	AMLAQANTSAQSILSILR
T.pallidumB	269	AMLAQANQATQSVLSLLR
L.pneumophila	264	AMLARANMKPNSVLKLLQHI
B.burgdorferei	319	AMIAQANQVPQYVLSLLR
B.subtilus	287	AMLAQANQQPQNVLQLLR
C.difficile	264	SMLSQANQQPQGVLQLLG
R.meliloti	377	QALSIANSDSQNVLSLFR
A.tumefaciens	289	QA <b>L</b> SI <b>AN</b> SDS <b>Q</b> NI <b>LSL</b> F <b>R</b>
R.lupini	393	QSLSIANSDSQNILSLFR
L.monocytogenes	269	SMLSQANQTPQMLTQLINS-
B.clarridgeiae	381	QA <b>L</b> SI <b>ANQ</b> GS <b>Q</b> NI <b>LAL</b> F <b>R</b> N-
consensus	601	ilaqanq pqnvlsllr

FIG. 7F

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## TOLL-LIKE RECEPTOR 5 LIGANDS AND METHODS OF USE

### CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of U.S. Ser. No. 12/546, 593 filed 24 Aug. 2009, which is a continuation of U.S. Ser. No. 10/125,692 filed 17 Apr. 2002 and now U.S. Pat. No. 7,915,381, which claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) to provisional application 60/285,477 filed 20 Apr. 2001. The contents of these applications are incorporated herein by reference.

### STATEMENT OF RIGHTS TO INVENTIONS MADE UNDER FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH

This invention was made with government support under grant numbers 5R37AI025032 and 5R01AI032972, awarded by the National Institutes of Health. The United States Government has certain rights in this invention.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Cancer is the second leading cause of death in the United States, accounting for one in every four deaths. This year, it is expected that over 1500 Americans will die of cancer each day and that a million new cases of cancer will be diagnosed. 30 The most common treatments for cancer are surgery, radiation and chemotherapy. According to the American Cancer Society, immunotherapy can be considered as the "fourth modality" in the treatment of cancer. Immunotherapy is treatment that stimulates one's own immune system to fight can-

Cancer is a group of diseases characterized by uncontrolled growth of abnormal cells of the body. All types of cancer involve the malfunction of genes that control cell growth and division. Some of these genes become incorrectly regulated, 40 resulting in over- or under-production of a particular protein, while others become mutated, resulting in unusual or abnormal proteins that alter normal cellular functions. These abnormal proteins, referred to as "tumor cell antigens," should be recognized and destroyed by an individual's immune system 45 as "foreign" antigens.

However, the immune system of a cancer patient may ignore these tumor antigens and be unresponsive to the growing tumor. Using immunotherapy approaches, such as cancer vaccines and immune system modulators, an individual's 50 immune system can be induced to mount a potent immune response against tumor cell antigens, resulting in elimination of cancer cells. A cancer vaccine can contain a tumor cell antigen that stimulates the immune system to recognize and destroy cells which display that antigen. Treating an indi- 55 vidual with such a cancer vaccine can result in a humoral response, which involves producing antibodies that recognize and target tumor cells for destruction and a cellular response, which involves producing cytotoxic T cells that recognize and destroy tumor cells directly, or both responses. It can be 60 desirable to obtain both a humoral and cellular immunity response during immunotherapy because both arms of immune response have been positively correlated with beneficial clinical responses. To help stimulate either or both humoral and cellular immune responses, a cancer vaccine can 65 be combined with an adjuvant, which is a substance that stimulates a general immune response.

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The potency of cancer vaccines is greatly enhanced by the use of adjuvants. The selection of an adjuvant for use with a particular vaccine can have a beneficial effect on the clinical outcome of vaccination. Some vaccines are ineffective in the absence of an adjuvant. Effectiveness of a vaccine may be particularly troublesome when the vaccine is produced from self antigens such as those required for cancer vaccines or other non-infectious disease vaccines. In view of the beneficial effects of adjuvants in vaccine formulations, it is surprising that only one type of adjuvant, aluminum-salt based adjuvants, are currently in wide use in United States-licensed vaccines.

Thus, there exists a need for more and improved immunological adjuvants. The present invention satisfies this need and provides related advantages as well.

### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention provides an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide having at least about 10 amino acids of substantially the amino acid sequence GAVQNRFNSAIT, or a modification thereof, and having toll-like receptor 5 (TLR5) binding. Methods of inducing an immune response are also provided.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGS. 1A-B show NF-kB activation and TNFa production in cells expressing CD4-TLR4 or CD4-TLR5.

FIGS. **2**A-B show selective induction of TLR5-stimulated activation of NF-kB by *P. aeruginosa* and *L. monocytogenes* cultures compared to LPS and lipopeptide.

FIGS. **3**A-C show the purification of a TRL5-stimulating activity from *L. monocytogenes* culture supernatant.

FIGS. 4A-C (portions of SEQ ID NO:32 (including amino acids 1-11, amino acids 36-51, amino acids 120-134, amino acids 155-168, amino acids 224-240) and SEQ ID NO:32) show the identification by mass spectrometry of flagellin as a TLR5-stimulating activity.

FIGS. 5A-D show that flagellin expression in bacteria reconstitutes TLR5-stimulating activity.

FIG. 6 shows systemic induction of IL-6 in wild type mice treated with purified flagellin.

FIGS. 7AA-F show a comparison of flagellin amino acid sequences from 22 species of bacteria (SEQ ID NOS:11-33) and a consensus sequence of amino acid residues conserved across species (SEQ ID NO:34).

### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The invention is directed to flagellin derived peptides that exhibit immunomodulatory activity and to methods of inducing an immune response through activation of toll-like receptor 5 (TLR5). The identification of active flagellin peptides and their corresponding receptor, TLR5, expands the available treatment methods for inducing an immune response. Moreover, the identification of active flagellin peptides and their cognate receptor allows the identification of immunomodulatory compounds.

In one embodiment, the invention is directed to immuno-modulatory flagellin peptides that bind to TLR5 and induce a TLR5-mediated activity. The peptides can be used, for example, to effectively stimulate an immune response or ameliorate a pathological condition by administration of immunomodulatory flagellin peptides and combinations of such peptides with antigens and other immunomodulatory molecules. Full length flagellin polypeptides are also used in the methods of the invention to stimulate an immune

response. An advantage of the immunomodulatory flagellin peptides of the invention is that they provide the specificity of flagellin together with the availability of rapid and efficient methods for recombinant and chemical synthesis of peptides. The immunomodulatory flagellin peptides of the invention 5 can therefore be combined with numerous well known modes of administration for the treatment of a wide variety of pathological conditions.

In another embodiment, the invention provides a method of inducing an immune response in an individual by administer- 10 ing a vaccine containing an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide of the invention and an antigen. An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide of the invention functions to stimulate an innate immune response. The innate immune response involves the production of immunomodulatory molecules that beneficially promote the adaptive immune response. The adaptive immune response includes both humoral and cellmediated immune responses to antigen. Thus, a flagellin peptide functions to boost either or both humoral and cell-mediated immune responses against the antigen. A boost in an 20 immune response causes a general increase in immune system activity that can result in the destruction of foreign or pathologically aberrant cells that otherwise could have escaped the immune response.

As used herein, the term "flagellin" is intended to mean a 25 flagellin polypeptide contained in a variety of Gram-positive or Gram-negative bacterial species. The nucleotide and amino acid sequences of flagellin from 22 bacterial species are depicted in FIG. 7. The nucleotide sequences encoding the listed flagellin polypeptides are publicly available in the 30 NCBI Genbank database. The flagellin sequences from these and other species are intended to be encompassed by the term flagellin as used herein. Therefore, the sequence differences between species is included within the meaning of the term.

As used herein, the term "peptide" is intended to mean two 35 or more amino acids covalently bonded together. The term "flagellin peptide" is intended to mean a peptide or fragment encoded by a portion of the nucleotide sequence or having a portion of the amino acid sequence which exhibits substantially the same sequence identity to the flagellin sequences as 40 described above and identified in FIG. 7 and binds to toll-like receptor 5 (TLR5). For example, a flagellin peptide amino acid sequence is about 65% or greater in sequence identity to a portion of the S. Typhimurium1 sequence, GAVQNRFN-SAIT, identified as SEQ ID NO:2, encoded by the nucleic 45 acid sequence identified as SEQ ID NO:1. Therefore, flagellin peptides having amino acid substitutions that do not substantially alter TLR5 binding are included within the definition of a flagellin peptide. For example, flagellin peptides which contain one or more alanine substitutions and have 50 substantially the same TLR5 binding activity as the flagellin peptide identified as SEQ ID NO:2 are included within the definition of a flagellin peptide. Exemplary flagellin peptides containing alanine substitutions and having substantially the same TLR5 binding activity as the flagellin peptide identified 55 as SEQ ID NO:2 include, for example, GAVANRFNSAIT (SEQ ID NO:3) and GAVQNAFNSAIT (SEQ ID NO:4). Flagellin peptides consisting of greater than twelve amino acids and having TLR5 binding activity can similarly contain amino acid substitutions, so long as such substituted peptides 60 retain substantially the same TLR5 binding activity. Examples of such flagellin peptides containing substitutions of various amino acid residues with alanine include ADTRDLGAVQNRFNSAIT (SEQ ID NO:37), VDARDL-GAVQNRFNSAIT (SEQ ID NO:38) and VDTADLGAVQN- 65 RFNSAIT (SEQ ID NO:39). A flagellin peptide of the invention does not include a full length flagellin polypeptide. A

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flagellin peptide is intended to include molecules which contain, in whole or in part, non-amide linkages between amino acids, amino acid analogs and mimetics. Similarly, a flagellin peptide also includes cyclic peptides and other conformationally constrained structures. A flagellin peptide of the invention includes polypeptides having several hundred or more amino acid residues and can contain a heterologous amino acid sequence.

The term flagellin peptide specifically excludes fragments of flagellin described in Newton et al. *Science*, 244:70-72 (1989); Kuwajima, G., *J. Bacteriol*. 170:3305-3309 (1988); McSorley et al., *J. Immunol*. 164:986-993 (2000); and Samatey et al. *J. Struct. Biol*. 132:106-111 (2000).

As used herein, term "immunomodulatory flagellin peptide," is intended to mean a peptide or fragment having a portion of the amino acid sequence which exhibits substantially the same sequence identity to the flagellin sequences as described above and shown in FIG. 7 and binds to toll-like receptor 5 (TLR5). For example, an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide amino acid sequence is about 65% or greater in sequence identity to a portion of the S. Typhimurium1 sequence, GAVQNRFNSAIT, identified as SEQ ID NO:2, encoded by the nucleic acid sequence identified as SEQ ID NO:1. Therefore, immunomodulatory flagellin peptides having amino acid substitutions that do not substantially alter TLR5 binding are included within the definition of an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide. For example, immunomodulatory flagellin peptides which contain one or more alanine substitutions and have substantially the same TLR5 binding activity as the flagellin peptide identified as SEQ ID NO:2 are included within the definition of a flagellin peptide. Exemplary immunomodulatory flagellin peptides containing alanine substitutions and having substantially the same TLR5 binding activity as the flagellin peptide identified as SEQ ID NO:2 include, for example, GAVANRFNSAIT (SEQ ID NO:3) and GAVQNAFNSAIT (SEQ ID NO:4). Immunomodulatory flagellin peptides consisting of greater than twelve amino acids and having TLR5 binding activity can similarly contain amino acid substitutions, so long as such substituted peptides retain substantially the same TLR5 binding activity. Examples of such immunomodulatory flagellin peptides containing substitutions of various amino acid residues with alanine include ADTRDLGAVQNRFNSAIT (SEQ ID NO:37), VDARDLGAVQNRFNSAIT (SEQ ID NO:38) and VDTADLGAVQNRFNSAIT (SEQ ID NO:39). An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide of the invention does not include a full length flagellin polypeptide. An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide is intended to include molecules which contain, in whole or in part, non-amide linkages between amino acids, amino acid analogs and mimetics. Similarly, an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide also includes cyclic peptides and other conformationally constrained structures. An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide of the invention includes polypeptides having several hundred or more amino acid residues and can contain a heterologous amino acid sequence.

An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof, of the invention binds to toll-like receptor 5 (TLR5) and induces a TLR5-mediated response. It is understood that minor modifications can be made without destroying the TLR5 binding activity, TLR5-mediated response stimulating activity or immune response modulating activity of an flagellin peptide or polypeptide and that only a portion of the primary structure may be required in order to effect activity. Such modifications are included within the meaning of the terms flagellin polypeptide and flagellin peptide so long as TLR5 binding activity, TLR5

response stimulating or immune response stimulating activities are retained. Further, various molecules can be attached to flagellin polypeptides and peptides, including for example, other polypeptides, carbohydrates, nucleic acids or lipids. Such modifications are included within the definition of the 5 term.

Minor modifications of flagellin polypeptide and peptides having at least about the same TLR5 binding activity, TLR5 response stimulating or immune response stimulating activity as the referenced polypeptide or peptide include, for example, 10 conservative substitutions of naturally occurring amino acids and as well as structural alterations which incorporate non-naturally occurring amino acids, amino acid analogs and functional mimetics. For example, a Lysine (Lys) is considered to be a conservative substitution for the amino acid Arg. Similarly, a flagellin peptide containing mimetic structures having similar charge and spatial arrangements as reference amino acid residues would be considered a modification of the reference polypeptide or peptide so long as the peptide mimetic exhibits at least about the same activity as the reference pentide.

As used herein, the term "amino acid" is intended to mean both naturally occurring and non-naturally occurring amino acids as well as amino acid analogs and mimetics. Naturally occurring amino acids include the 20 (L)-amino acids utilized 25 during protein biosynthesis as well as others such as 4-hydroxyproline, hydroxylysine, desmosine, isodesmosine, homocysteine, citrulline and ornithine, for example. Nonnaturally occurring amino acids include, for example, (D)amino acids, norleucine, norvaline, p-fluorophenylalanine, 30 ethionine and the like. Amino acid analogs include modified forms of naturally and non-naturally occurring amino acids. Such modifications can include, for example, substitution or replacement of chemical groups and moieties on the amino acid or by derivitization of the amino acid. Amino acid 35 mimetics include, for example, organic structures which exhibit functionally similar properties such as charge and charge spacing characteristic of the reference amino acid. For example, an organic structure which mimics Arginine (Arg or R) would have a positive charge moiety located in similar 40 molecular space and having the same degree of mobility as the  $\epsilon$ -amino group of the side chain of the naturally occurring Arg amino acid. Mimetics also include constrained structures so as to maintain optimal spacing and charge interactions of the amino acid or of the amino acid functional groups. Those 45 skilled in the art know or can determine what structures constitute functionally equivalent amino acid analogs and amino acid mimetics.

Specific examples of amino acid analogs and mimetics can be found described in, for example, Roberts and Vellaccio, 50 The Peptides: Analysis, Synthesis, Biology, Eds. Gross and Meinhofer, Vol. 5, p. 341, Academic Press, Inc., New York, N.Y. (1983), the entire volume of which is incorporated herein by reference. Other examples include peralkylated amino acids, particularly permethylated amino acids. See, for 55 example, Combinatorial Chemistry, Eds. Wilson and Czarnik, Ch. 11, p. 235, John Wiley & Sons Inc., New York, N.Y. (1997), the entire book of which is incorporated herein by reference. Yet other examples include amino acids whose amide portion (and, therefore, the amide backbone of the 60 resulting peptide) has been replaced, for example, by a sugar ring, steroid, benzodiazepine or carbo cycle. See, for instance, Burger's Medicinal Chemistry and Drug Discovery, Ed. Manfred E. Wolff, Ch. 15, pp. 619-620, John Wiley & Sons Inc., New York, N.Y. (1995), the entire book of which is 65 incorporated herein by reference. Methods for synthesizing peptides, polypeptides, peptidomimetics and proteins are

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well known in the art (see, for example, U.S. Pat. No. 5,420, 109; M. Bodanzsky, *Principles of Peptide Synthesis* (1st ed. & 2d rev. ed.), Springer-Verlag, New York, N.Y. (1984 & 1993), see Chapter 7; Stewart and Young, *Solid Phase Peptide Synthesis*, (2d ed.), Pierce Chemical Co., Rockford, Ill. (1984), each of which is incorporated herein by reference).

As used herein, the term "immune response" is intended to mean to a measurable or observable reaction to an antigen or immunomodulatory molecule mediated by one or more cells of the immune system. An immune response begins with an antigen or immunomodulatory molecule binding to an immune system cell and terminates with destruction of antigen and cells containing antigen or alteration in immune cell function. A reaction to an antigen or immunomodulatory molecule is mediated by many cell types, including a cell that initially binds to an antigen or immunomodulatory molecule and cells that participate in mediating an innate, humoral, cell-mediated immune response. An innate immune response involves binding of pathogen-associated molecular patterns (PAMPs) to cell surface receptors, such as toll-like receptors. Activation of toll-like receptors in response to PAMPs leads to the production of immunomodulatory molecules, such as cytokines and co-stimulatory molecules, that induce an immune response. A humoral response involves interaction of B cells with antigen and B cell differentiation into antibodysecreting cells. A cell-mediated response involves various subpopulations of T cells that recognize antigen presented on self-cells, including helper T cells that respond to antigen by producing cytokines and cytotoxic T cells that respond to antigen by developing into cytotoxic T lymphocytes, which mediate killing of altered self-cells. The term immune response includes measurable or observable reactions produced by any cell type that participates in the processes through which immune system cells are activated and antigen containing cells are destroyed. Such measurable reactions include, for example, production of immunomodulatory molecules, migration and proliferation.

An "immunomodulatory molecule" is a molecule that alters an immune response. An immunomodulatory molecule can be, for example, a compound, such as an organic chemical; a polypeptide, such as an antibody or cytokine; a nucleic acid, such as a DNA or RNA molecule; or any other type of molecule that alters an immune response. An immunomodulatory molecule can alter an immune response by directly or indirectly altering an activity of a cell that mediates an immune response. An immunomodulatory molecule can act directly on an immune system cell, for example, by binding to a cell surface receptor and stimulating or inhibiting proliferation, differentiation, or expression, secretion or receptor binding of immune system regulatory molecules such as co-stimulatory receptors and ligands, cytokines, and chemokines. Examples of naturally occurring molecules that act directly on immune system cells to alter an immune response include PAMPs, cytokines, chemokines and growth factors. Other examples of molecules that act directly on immune system cells to alter an immune response include molecules that alter receptor functions, such as antibodies to receptors, soluble cytokine receptors, receptor agonists and antagonists, molecules that alter the production of immunomodulatory molecules, such as inhibitors of converting enzymes and molecules involved in the intracellular transport and secretion of immunomodulatory molecules.

An immunomodulatory molecule can indirectly alter the activity of a particular immune system cell by altering the amount or activity of a molecule that regulates a cellular activity of the cell. For example, a cytokine, chemokine, or growth factor produced by an immune system cell, such as a

macrophage, can stimulate or inhibit various cellular activities of B and T lymphocytes. Immune cell functions that can be stimulated or inhibited by an immunomodulatory molecule include, for example, immune cell activation, co-activation, proliferation, production of cytokines, cellular inter- 5 actions and migration. An immunomodulatory molecule can therefore act on a variety of immune cell types and can alter a variety of cellular functions. An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modifications thereof used in the methods of the invention are examples of immunomodulatory molecules useful for inducing an immune response, for example, by binding to TLR5 and inducing a TLR5-mediated increase in macrophage production of TNF $\alpha$ , IL-1 and IL-6. The flagellin polypeptides, peptides and modifications thereof, are also useful for indirectly inducing an immune 15 response because immunomodulatory molecules produced by a TLR5-expressing cell in response to flagellin will alter the activities of immune system cells that respond to the particular immunomodulatory molecules produced.

An immunomodulatory molecule can mediate an immune 20 response that is specific for a target antigen or nonspecific. A specific immunomodulatory molecule alters an immune response to a particular target antigen. Examples of specific immunomodulatory molecules include monoclonal antibodies, including naked monoclonal antibodies, drug-, toxin- or 25 radioactive compound-conjugated monoclonal antibodies, and ADCC targeting molecules. Such immunomodulatory molecules stimulate an immune response by binding to antigens and targeting cells for destruction. An immunomodulatory molecule can be used to suppress an immune response to 30 an antigen. For example, a tolerogenizing molecule can be used to suppress an immune response to a self-antigen.

Nonspecific immunomodulatory molecules stimulate or inhibit the immune system in a general manner through various mechanisms that can include, for example, stimulating or 35 suppressing cellular activities of immune system cells. Nonspecific immunomodulatory molecules useful for stimulating an immune responses include, for example, agents that stimulate immune cell proliferation, immune cell activation and production of cytokines and co-stimulatory molecules. Well 40 known immunomodulatory molecules that stimulate an immune response are, for example, interleukins, interferons, levamisole and keyhole limpet hemocyanin. Nonspecific immunomodulatory molecules useful for suppressing immune responses include, for example, agents that inhibit 45 cytokines synthesis or processing, specific cytokine receptor blocking reagents such as soluble receptors and receptor antagonists, and cytokines that down-regulate or inhibit the production of other immunomodulatory molecules. Well known immunomodulatory molecules for suppressing an 50 immune response include, for example, cyclosporin, rapamycin, tacrolimus, azathioprine, cyclophosphamide and meth-

Immunomodulatory molecules can be contained in a mixture of molecules, including a natural or man-made composition of molecules. Exemplary natural compositions of immunomodulatory compounds include, for example, those contained in an organism such as Bacille Calmette-Guerin (BCM) or *Corynbacterium parvum*. Exemplary man-made compositions of immunomodulatory molecules include, for 60 example, QS-21, DETOX and incomplete Freund's adjuvant.

As used herein, the term "adjuvant" when used in reference to a vaccine, is intended to mean a substance that acts generally to accelerate, prolong, or enhance the quality of specific immune responses to a vaccine antigen. An adjuvant can 65 advantageously reduce the number of immunizations or the amount of antigen required for protective immunization.

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As used herein, the term "antigen-specific immune response" is intended to mean a reaction of one or more cells of the immune system to a particular antigen that is not substantially cross-reactive with other antigens.

As used herein, the term "antigen" is intended to mean a molecule which induces an immune response. An antigen can be a crude mixture of molecules, such as a cell, or one or more isolated molecules. Examples of crude antigens include attenuated organisms, inactivated organisms, viral particles and tumor cells. Examples of isolated antigens include a polypeptide, lipoprotein, glycoprotein, lipid, anti-idiotype antibody, toxoid, polysaccharide, capsular polysaccharide and nucleic acid. Such isolated antigens can be naturally occurring, recombinantly produced, or synthesized. Exemplary naturally occurring antigens include purified microbial macromolecules. Exemplary recombinantly produced antigens include cloned microbial and tumor cell antigens. Exemplary synthesized antigens include synthetic peptides and nucleic acids.

As used herein, the term "vaccine" is intended to mean a compound or formulation which, when administered to an individual, stimulates an immune response against an antigen. A vaccine is useful for preventing or ameliorating a pathological condition that will respond favorably to immune response modulation. A vaccine can contain isolated or crude antigen, and can contain one or more antigens. A vaccine can contain one or more adjuvants.

As used herein, the term "immunogenic amount" is intended to mean an amount of an immunomodulatory flagellin polypeptide, peptide or modifications thereof, or combinations thereof with one or more molecules, such as an antigen or other immunomodulatory molecule, required to effect an immune response. The dosage of an immunomodulatory flagellin polypeptide, peptide, or modifications thereof, independently or in combination with one or more molecules, will depend, for example, on the pathological condition to be treated, the weight and condition of the individual and previous or concurrent therapies. The appropriate amount considered to be an immunogenic dose for a particular application of the method can be determined by those skilled in the art, using the guidance provided herein. For example, the amount can be extrapolated from in vitro or in vivo assays as described below. Those skilled in the art will understand that the condition of the patient needs to be monitored through the course of therapy and that the amount of the composition that is administered can be adjusted according to patient response to therapy.

The term "pathologically aberrant cell" is intended to mean a cell that is altered from a normal physiological or cellular state. Such alteration can be due to changes in physiology or phenotype associated with a disease or abnormal condition of a mammalian cell or tissue. Pathologically aberrant cells include cells lacking normal control of cellular functions, such as growth, differentiation, and apoptosis, resulting in altered gene and protein expression. Cells that lack normal growth control proliferate in the absence of appropriate growth signals, resulting in damage in structure or function of surrounding tissues. Cells that lack normal differentiation undergo inappropriate phenotypic or physiological changes that do not normally characterize the cell type, resulting in damage in structure and function or surrounding tissues. Cells that lack normal apoptosis fail to undergo, or inappropriately undergo the process of cell death, resulting in damage in structure or function of surrounding tissues. Altered protein expression is an example of a phenotype change that renders such cells distinguishable from normal. For example, increased or decreased expression of a polypeptide normally

expressed on a cell, expression of a mutated polypeptide and expression of a polypeptide not normally expressed on a cell are phenotypic changes that can alter a cell from normal. Examples of pathologically aberrant cells include tumor cells and degenerating cells.

As used herein, the term "pathological condition" is intended to mean a disease, abnormal condition or injury of a mammalian cell or tissue. Such pathological conditions include, for example, hyperproliferative and unregulated neoplastic cell growth, degenerative conditions, inflammatory diseases, autoimmune diseases and infectious diseases. Pathological conditions characterized by excessive or unregulated cell growth include, for example, hyperplasia, cancer, autoimmune disease and infectious disease. Hyperplastic and cancer cells proliferate in an unregulated manner, 15 causing destruction of tissues and organs. Specific examples of hyperplasias include benign prostatic hyperplasia and endometrial hyperplasia. Specific examples of cancer include prostate, breast, ovary, lung, uterus, brain and skin cancers. Abnormal cellular growth can also result from infectious 20 diseases in which foreign organisms cause excessive growth. For example, human papilloma viruses can cause abnormal growth of skin cells. The growth of cells infected by a pathogen is abnormal due to the alteration of the normal condition of a cell resulting from the presence of a foreign organism. 25 Specific examples of infectious diseases include DNA and RNA viral diseases, bacterial diseases, parasitic diseases. Similarly, the growth of cells mediating autoimmune and inflammatory diseases are aberrantly regulated which results in, for example, the continued proliferation and activation of 30 immune mechanisms with the destruction of tissues and organs. Specific examples of autoimmune diseases include, for example, rheumatoid arthritis and systemic lupus erythmatosis. Specific examples of degenerative disease include osteoarthritis and Alzheimer's disease.

By specific mention of the above categories of pathological conditions, those skilled in the art will understand that such terms include all classes and types of these pathological conditions. For example, the term cancer is intended to include all known cancers, whether characterized as malignant, benign, 40 soft tissue or solid tumor. Similarly, the terms infectious diseases, degenerative diseases, autoimmune diseases and inflammatory diseases are intended to include all classes and types of these pathological conditions. Those skilled in the art will know the various classes and types of proliferative, infectious, autoimmune and inflammatory diseases.

As used herein the term "toll-like receptor 5" or "TLR5" is intended to mean a toll-like receptor 5 of any species, such as the murine and human polypeptides containing the amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOS:6 and 8, respectively, 50 encoded by the nucleic acid sequence identified as SEQ ID NOS:5 and 7, respectively. A TLR5 is activated upon binding to flagellin, an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, or modifications thereof, and other TLR5 agonists. Upon activation, a TLR5 induces a cellular response by transducing an intracel- 55 lular signal that is propagated through a series of signaling molecules from the cell surface to the nucleus. For example, the intracellular domain of TLR5 recruits an adaptor protein, MyD88, which recruits the serine kinase IRAK. IRAK forms a complex with TRAF6, which then interacts with various 60 molecules that participate in transducing the TLR signal. These molecules and other TRL5 signal transduction pathway components stimulate the activity of transcription factors, such as fos, jun and NF-κB, and the corresponding induction of gene products of fos-, jun- and NF-kB-regulated 65 genes, such as, for example, TNFα, IL-1 and IL-6. The activities of signaling molecules that mediate the TLR5 signal, as

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well as molecules produced as a result of TLR5 activation are TLR5 activities that can be observed or measured. Therefore, a TLR5 activity includes binding to a flagellin polypeptide, immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, or a modification thereof, recuitment of intracellular signaling molecules, as well as downstream events resulting from TLR5 activation, such as transcription factor activation and production of immunomodulatory molecules. A TLR5 cellular response mediates an innate immune system response in an animal because cytokines released by TLR5-expressing cells regulate other immune system cells to promote an immune response in an animal. Therefore, as used herein the term "TLR5-mediated response" is intended to mean the ability of a flagellin polypeptide, immunomodulatory peptide or modification thereof to induce a TLR5-mediated cellular response. Exemplary TLR5-mediated cellular responses include activation of transcription factors such as fos, jun and NF-κB, production of cytokines such as IL-1, IL-6 and TNFα, and the stimulation of an immune response in an animal.

A TLR5 also encompasses polypeptides containing minor modifications of a native TLR5, and fragments of a fulllength native TLR5, so long as the modified polypeptide or fragment retains one or more biological activities of a native TLR5, such as the abilities to stimulate NF-κB activity, stimulate the production of cytokines such as TNFα, IL-1, and IL-6 and stimulate an immune response in response to TLR5 binding to flagellin polypeptide, immunomodulatory peptide or modifications thereof. A modification of a TLR5 can include additions, deletions, or substitutions of amino acids, so long as a biological activity of a native TLR5 is retained. For example, a modification can serve to alter the stability or activity the polypeptide, or to facilitate its purification. Modifications of polypeptides as described above in reference to flagellin polypeptides and peptides are appli-35 cable to TLR5 polypeptides of the invention. A "fragment" of a TLR5 is intended to mean a portion of a TLR5 that retains at least about the same activity as a native TLR5.

As used herein, the term "TLR5 agonist" refers to a compound that selectively activates or increases normal signal transduction through TLR5. As used herein, the term "TLR5 antagonist" refers to a compound that selectively inhibits or decreases normal signal transduction through TLR5. A TLR5 agonist or antagonist can alter normal signal transduction through TLR5 indirectly, for example, by modifying or altering the native conformation of TLR5 or a TLR5 ligand. For therapeutic applications, a TLR5 agonist or antagonist has an EC50 of less than about  $10^{-7}$  M, such as less than  $10^{-8}$  M and less than 10<sup>-9</sup> M, although a TRL5 agonist with a higher EC50 can be therapeutically useful. As used herein, the term "TLR5 ligand" refers to a compound that binds a TLR5 polypeptide with high affinity. A TLR5 ligand can further be an agonist or antagonist of TLR5, as described above, or can be a compound having little or no effect on TLR5 signaling.

As used herein, the term "detectably labeled" refers to derivitization with, or conjugation to, a moiety that is detectable by an analytical or qualitative method. A detectable moiety can be, for example, a radioisotope, such as <sup>14</sup>C, <sup>131</sup>I, <sup>32</sup>P or <sup>3</sup>H, fluorochrome, ferromagnetic substance, or luminescent substance.

As used herein the term "ADCC targeting molecule" is intended to mean an antigen binding protein containing a Fc receptor binding domain capable of inducing antibody-dependent cell cytotoxicity (ADCC). An ADCC targeting molecule can also contain other domains that augment induction of ADCC. The flagellin polypeptides and peptides, immunomodulatory peptides, and modifications described herein, can be domains of an ADCC targeting molecule that augment

induction of ADCC. The ADCC targeting molecule can include multiple valencies for either or both the antigen binding domain or the Fc receptor binding domain. Additionally, an ADCC targeting molecule also can have multiple different antigen binding domains combined with a single or multiple 5 copies of an Fc receptor binding domain or combined with different Fc receptor binding domains. The antigen binding domain or domains can be derived from essentially any molecule that has selective or specific binding activity to a target antigen so long as it can be fused or attached to one or more 10 Fc receptor binding domains while still maintaining antigen binding activity. The Fc receptor binding domain can be derived from an antibody constant region of, for example, the IgG class, including subclasses IgG1, IgG3 and IgG4. Such Fc receptor binding domains can be used in their native form 15 or the amino acid sequence can be modified so as to enhance or optimize the Fc receptor binding or ADCC activity. Moreover, the Fc receptor binding domains can be derived from constant regions which recognize either stimulatory or inhibitory Fc receptors. The Fc receptor binding domain is located 20 within the hinge region of an antibody constant region where the cognate receptors bound by this domain include, for example, the Fc RI, Fc RIIA and Fc RIII. Therefore, ADCC targeting molecules include, for example, antibodies selective for a target antigen and functional variants thereof as well 25 as fusion proteins and chemical conjugates containing both an antigen binding domain and a Fc receptor binding domain in functionally active forms. ADCC targeting molecules and the use of ADCC targeting molecules in the treatment of disease are described in detail in U.S. patent application Ser. 30 No. 09/618,176, which is incorporated herein by reference.

The term "about" when used in reference to a particular activity or measurement is intended to refer to the referenced activity or measurement as being within a range values encompassing the referenced value and within accepted standards of a credible assay within the art, or within accepted statistical variance of a credible assay within the art.

As used herein, the term "substantially" or "substantially the same" when used in reference to an amino acid sequence is intended to mean that the amino acid sequence shows a 40 considerable degree, amount or extent of sequence identity when compared to the reference sequence. Such considerable degree, amount or extent of identity is further considered to be significant and meaningful and therefore exhibit characteristics which are definitively recognizable or known as being 45 derived from or related to flagellin. For example, an amino acid sequence which is substantially the same amino acid sequence as an flagellin peptide, including fragments thereof, refers to a sequence which exhibits characteristics that are definitively known or recognizable as being sufficiently 50 related to flagellin so as to fall within the classification of flagellin sequences as defined above. Minor modifications thereof are included so long as they are recognizable as an flagellin sequence as defined above.

As used herein, the term "individual" is intended to mean 55 any animal in which an immune response can be induced by a flagellin polypeptide, peptide or modifications thereof including a human, non-human primate, cow, pig, chicken, rabbit, ferret, rat or mouse.

An immunomodulatory flagellin polypeptide, peptide or 60 modifications thereof can be used to induce an immune response in an individual having a pathological condition, promoting the individual's own immune system to function more effectively and thereby ameliorate the pathological condition. An individual's immune system may not recognize 65 cancer cells and other types of pathologically aberrant cells as foreign because the particular antigens are not different

enough from those of normal cells to cause an immune reaction. In addition, the immune system may recognize cancer cells, but induce a response insufficient to destroy the cancer. By stimulating an innate immune response, immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof, promote humoral and cell-mediated responses to antigens on foreign cells or pathologically aberrant cells, such as cancer cells. Administered independently or in combination with an antigen, such as a tumor antigen, a flagellin polypeptide, peptide or modification thereof, can be used to boost the immune system's recognition of cancer cells and other pathologically aberrant cells, and target such cells for destruction.

Flagellin is a pathogen-associated molecular pattern (PAMP) recognized by toll-like receptor 5 (TRL5). Toll-like receptor 5 is a member of a family of at least 10 receptors involved in mediated the innate immune response. Toll-like receptors recognize PAMPs that distinguish infectious agents from self and mediating the production of immunomodulatory molecules, such as cytokines, necessary for the development of effective adaptive immunity (Aderem, A. and Ulevitch, R. J. Nature 406:782-787 (2000) and Brightbill, H. D., Immunology 101: 1-10 (2000)). Members of the toll-like receptor family recognize a variety of antigen types and can discriminate between pathogens. For example, TLR2 recognizes various fungal, Gram-positive, and mycobacterial components, TLR4 recognizes the Gram-negative product lipopolysaccharide (LPS), and TLR9 recognizes nucleic acids such as CpG repeats in bacterial DNA. TLR5 has now been identified as a receptor for bacterial flagellin.

Flagellin induces an innate immune response by binding to and activating TLR5. Activation of TLR5 by binding to flagellin induces the production of immunomodulatory molecules, such as cytokines and co-stimulatory molecules, by a TLR5-expressing cell. For example, activation of TLR5 in macrophages results in the expression of the cytokines TNF $\alpha$ , IL-1 and IL-6. These cytokines directly and indirectly alter the activities of immune system cells that participate in both humoral (TH2) and cell-mediated (TH1) adaptive immune responses. In this manner, an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof, acts as an adjuvant to stimulate a general immune response.

Altering the balance of TH1-versus TH2-associated cytokines can be used to favorably alter an immune response to treat certain diseases. For example, in the use of cancer vaccines, it can be favorable to induce both TH1 and TH2 responses (Herlyn and Birebent, Ann. Med., 31:66-78, (1999)). Different sets of cytokines orchestrate TH1 and TH2 immune responses. For example, TH1 immune responses are associated with the cytokines IL-2, IFN- $\gamma$ , and TNF $\alpha$  while TH2 immune responses are associated with the cytokines IL-4, IL-5, IL-6 and IL-10. TLR5 stimulates the production of cytokines associated with both TH1- and TH2-associated cytokines. For example, TNFa is associated with the stimulation of a TH1 type immune response (Ahlers, J D et al. J. Immunol, 158:3947-58 (1997)), and IL-6 is associated with the stimulation of a TH2 type response (Steidler, L. et al. Infect. Immun., 66:3183-9, (1998)). Therefore, an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof, can be used to advantageously elicit TH1 and TH2 type immune responses.

An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof can also be used to generally alter the particular cytokines involved in an immune response in an individual. Alterations from normal levels of cytokines are observed in many disease states. For this reason, it can be desirable to increase or decrease the amounts or activities of specific cytokines involved in particular pathological condi-

tions. The cytokines produced in response to TLR5 activation can both stimulate and down-regulate the production of other cytokines. Therefore, an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof, or combination of a flagellin molecule with an immunomodulatory molecule or 5 antigen can be used to alter levels of cytokines associated with a pathological condition. For example, an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide can increase TLR5-expressing macrophage production of TNF $\alpha$ , IL-1 and IL-6. TNF $\alpha$  and IL-1 generally function as pro-inflammatory cytokines. IL-6 generally functions as an anti-inflammatory cytokine and induces a variety of anti-inflammatory activities in immune system cells. For example, IL-6 stimulates the production of many anti-inflammatory anti-proteases. Those skilled in the art will be able to determine if a pathological condition in an indi- 15 vidual could be ameliorated by inducing TLR5-stimulated cytokine production and will be able to determine appropriate combinations of flagellin and immunomodulatory molecules suitable for inducing a beneficial immune response.

The invention provides an immunomodulatory flagellin 20 peptide comprising at least about 10 amino acids of substantially the amino acid sequence GAVQNRFNSAIT (SEQ ID NO:2), or a modification thereof, that binds to toll-like receptor 5 (TLR5).

The flagellin peptide identified by SEQ ID NO:2 is a pep- 25 tide of S. Typhimurium1 flagellin which is encoded by the nucleic acid sequence identified by SEQ ID NO:1. A flagellin peptide of the invention also includes peptides from other bacterial species, such as H. Pylori (SEQ ID NO:12), V. Cholera (SEQ ID NO:13), S. marcesens (SEQ ID NO:20), S. 30 flexneri (SEQ ID NO:22), T. Pallidum (SEQ ID NO:23 or SEQ ID NO:24), L. pneumophila (SEQ ID NO:25), B burgdorferei (SEQ ID NO:26), C. difficile (SEQ ID NO:28), R. meliloti (SEQ ID NO:29), A. tumefaciens (SEQ ID NO:30), R. lupini (SEQ ID NO:31), B. clarridgeiae (SEQ ID NO:33), 35 P. Mirabilis (SEQ ID NO:16), B. subtilus (SEQ ID NO:27), L. monocytogenes (SEQ ID NO:32), P. aeruginosa (SEQ ID NO:14) and E. coli (SEQ ID NO:21), which contain amino acid sequences having 21-71% identity over the 12 amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2. A flagellin peptide of the 40 invention also includes flagellin peptides from other bacterial species, including peptides contained within the flagellin amino acid sequences shown FIG. 7. Thus, a flagellin peptide of the invention can have greater than about 65% identity, such as greater than about 75%, greater than about 85%, 45 greater than about 95%, greater than about 98% identity with the peptide identified by SEQ ID NO:2.

A flagellin peptide of the invention is derived from a conserved region of a flagellin polypeptide. Conserved regions of flagellin are well known in the art and have been described, 50 for example, in Mimori-Kiyosue, et al., *J. Mol. Viol.* 270:222-237, (1997). Whereas T cell receptors which mediate the adaptive immune response recognize random portions of antigen amino acid sequences, toll-like receptors recognize conserved portions of antigen amino acid sequences. Therefore, the flagellin peptides of the invention and immunomodulatory flagellin peptides used in the methods of the invention contain amino acid sequences derived from conserved regions of flagellin.

A flagellin peptide of the invention excludes a portion of 60 flagellin described in Newton et al. (supra, 1989), which consists of an *S. meunchen* flagellin fragment containing a deletion of amino acids 207-223, portions of *E. coli* (strain K12) flagellin described in Kuwaijima et al. (supra, 1998), which consist of *E. coli* flagellin fragments containing deletions of amino acids 239-254, 259-278, 237-262, 194-379, 201-318, 218-326, 211-347, 210-299, 245-301, and 220-299,

a portion of flagellin described in Samatey et al. (supra, 2000), which consists of an *S. typhimurium* flagellin fragment lacking 52 N-terminal amino acid residues and lacking 44 C-terminal amino acid residues, and portions of flagellin described in McSorley et al. (supra, 2000) which consist of *S. typhimurium* flagellin fragments having the following amino acid sequences: RSDLGAVQNRFNSAI (SEQ ID NO:40), DLGAVQNRFNSAITN (SEQ ID NO:41), GAVQNRFNSAITNLG (SEQ ID NO:42) AND VQNRFNSAITNLGNT (SEQ ID NO:43).

An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide of the invention can contain a heterologous amino acid sequence that imparts structural or functional characteristics onto the flagellin peptide. For example, chimeric flagellin peptides or modifications can be used to impart a targeting function. Targeting of a flagellin peptide or modification to a particular site, such as a mucosal surface for example, confers additional therapeutic advantage of inducing an immune response at a site of pathological condition or a site favored for inducing an antigenspecific immune response, for example by a vaccine. Further, chimeric flagellin peptides can include a sequence that facilitates detection, purification or enhances immunomodulatory activity of the flagellin peptide. A flagellin peptide can be contained, for example, in an ADCC targeting molecule used to treat a pathological condition. A flagellin peptide can augment the effectiveness of an ADCC targeting molecule by, for example, stimulating an innate immune response through TLR5, such as the induction of cytokines such as TNF $\alpha$ , IL-1 and IL-6. Similarly, a flagellin peptide can contain amino acid sequences of a variety of antigen polypeptides, such as those described above in reference to antigens contained in vaccines used in the methods of the invention. A chimeric flagellin peptide containing amino acid sequences of an antigen or containing an antigenic molecule such as a carbohydrate, nucleic acid, or lipid, can be used analogously to a vaccine, as described above, as well as in a vaccine formulation, to induce an immune response in an individual. As such, a chimeric flagellin peptide can be a vaccine that induces both innate and adaptive immune system responses.

An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide of the invention can be prepared by a variety of methods well-known in the art, for example, by recombinant expression systems described below, and biochemical purification methods described below, as well as by synthetic methods well known in the art. Methods for recombinant expression and purification of polypeptides in various host organisms are described, for example, in Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York (1992) and in Ansubel et al., Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley and Sons, Baltimore, Md. (1998), both of which are incorporated herein by reference. Similarly, flagellin peptide modifications can be generated using recombinant mutagenesis, such as site directed mutagenesis and PCR mutagenesis, and expression of the flagellin peptide modification. Numerous methods of constructing, modifying, expressing and purifying peptides are known to those skilled in the art. A specific example of a method for purifying flagellin is described below in Example III. The choice of recombinant methods, expression and purification systems will be known by those skilled in the art and will depend on the user and the particular application for the immunomodulatory flagellin peptide or modification thereof.

A flagellin peptide of the invention induces an innate immune response in an individual by binding to an stimulating TLR5. Therefore, the invention provides methods for inducing an immune response in an individual having a pathological condition that can be ameliorated by immune

system activity. The methods involve administering an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide or modification thereof to induce an immune response, administering a combination of an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide and an antigen to induce an antigen-specific immune response, and administer- 5 ing a combination of an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide and an immunomodulatory molecule to modulate an immune response. The selection of a particular method for inducing an immune response will depend on the particular pathological condition to be ameliorated or prevented in an individual. As 10 described herein, the methods are applicable to a wide variety of pathological conditions. Those skilled in the art will be able to determine if an immune response can be beneficially modulated by administering an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide or combination thereof with an antigen or immuno- 15 modulatory molecule.

The invention provides method of inducing an antigenspecific immune response in an individual. The method involves administering to an individual an immunogenic amount of a vaccine, comprising an antigen and an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide having at least about 10 amino acids of substantially the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, or a modification thereof.

As an adjuvant in a vaccine formulation, the immunomodulatory flagellin peptides of the invention can contribute 25 to the effectiveness of the vaccine by, for example, enhancing the immunogenicity of weaker antigens such as highly purified or recombinant antigens, reducing the amount of antigen required for an immune response, reducing the frequency of immunization required to provide protective immunity, 30 improve the efficacy of vaccines in individuals with reduced or weakened immune responses, such as newborns, the aged, and immunocompromised individuals, and enhance the immunity at a target tissue, such as mucosal immunity, or promote cell-mediated or humoral immunity by eliciting a 35 particular cytokine profile. An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof induces an innate immune response through activation of TLR5. The innate immune response increases the immune response to an antigen by stimulating the adaptive immune response. There-40 fore, a combination of an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof with one or more antigens provides an effective vaccine for inducing an immune response in an individual.

The methods of the invention for inducing an antigen- 45 specific immune response can be used to treat individuals having a variety of pathological conditions. For example, cancer vaccines have been used effectively for treating melanoma and breast cancers. Vaccines have been used for treatment of inflammatory diseases such as asthma (Scanga C. B 50 and Le Gros, G., Drugs 59(6), 1217-1221 (2000)), infectious diseases of pathogenic bacteria such as *H. pylori*, pathogenic viruses such as human papilloma virus and HIV (Sutton P. and Lee, A, Aliment Pharmacol. 14:1107-1118 (2000)), protozoa, autoimmune diseases such as diabetes (von Herrath 55 and Whitton, Ann. Med. 32:285-292 (2000)) and degenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease (Youngkin, S. G., Nat. Med., 7(1):18-19 (2001)). Therefore, a vaccine used in the methods of the invention for inducing an antigen-specific immune response can be administered to an individual for 60 treatment of a variety of pathological conditions, including proliferative disease, infectious disease, inflammatory disease and degenerative disease.

A variety of antigens can be used in combination with an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide of the invention for preparing a vaccine. Microorganisms such as viruses, bacteria and parasites contain substances that are not normally present

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in the body. These substances can be used as antigens to produce an immune response to destroy both the antigen and cells containing the antigen, such as a bacterial cell or cancer cell

For example, isolated or crude antigens of microbial pathogens can be used in vaccines to treat infectious disease; isolated or crude tumor cell antigens can be used in vaccines to treat cancer; isolated or crude antigens known to be associated with a pathologically aberrant cell can be used to treat a variety of diseases in which it is beneficial to target particular cells for destruction.

A variety of substances can be used as antigens in a vaccine compound or formulation. For example, attenuated and inactivated viral and bacterial pathogens, purified macromolecules, polysaccharides, toxoids, recombinant antigens, organisms containing a foreign gene from a pathogen, synthetic peptides, polynucleic acids, antibodies and tumor cells can be used to prepare a vaccine useful for treating a pathological condition. Therefore, an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide of the invention can be combined with a wide variety of antigens to produce a vaccine useful for inducing an immune response in an individual. Those skilled in the art will be able to select an antigen appropriate for treating a particular pathological condition and will know how to determine whether a crude or isolated antigen is favored in a particular vaccine formulation.

An isolated antigen can be prepared using a variety of methods well known in the art. A gene encoding any immunogenic polypeptide can be isolated and cloned, for example, in bacterial, yeast, insect, reptile or mammalian cells using recombinant methods well known in the art and described, for example in Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York (1992) and in Ansubel et al., Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley and Sons, Baltimore, Md. (1998). A number of genes encoding surface antigens from viral, bacterial and protozoan pathogens have been successfully cloned, expressed and used as antigens for vaccine development. For example, the major surface antigen of hepatitis B virus, HbsAg, the  $\beta$  subunit of choleratoxin, the enterotoxin of E. coli, the circumsporozoite protein of the malaria parasite, and a glycoprotein membrane antigen from Epstein-Barr virus, as well as tumor cell antigens, have been expressed in various well known vector/host systems, purified and used in vaccines. An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof induces an innate immune response through TLR5 that can beneficially enhance an immune response to a recombinant antigen.

A pathologically aberrant cell to be used in a vaccine can be obtained from any source such as one or more individuals having a pathological condition or ex vivo or in vitro cultured cells obtained from one or more such individuals, including a specific individual to be treated with the resulting vaccine.

Those skilled in the art will be able to determine if a vaccine compound or formulation induces an innate, humoral, cell-mediated, or any combination of these types of immune response, as methods for characterizing these immune responses are well known in the art. For example, the ability of a vaccine compound or formulation to induce an innate immune response through TLR5 can be determined using methods described herein as well as other methods. Such methods for detecting an innate immune response can be generally performed within hours of vaccine administration. The ability of a vaccine compound or formulation to induce a humoral response can be determined by measuring the titer of antigen-specific antibodies in an animal primed with the vaccine and boosted with the antigen, or determining the pres-

ence of antibodies cross-reactive with an antigen by ELISA, Western blotting or other well-known methods. Cell-mediated immune responses can be determined, for example, by measuring cytotoxic T cell response to antigen using a variety of methods well known in the art. Methods of detecting humoral and cell-medicated immune responses can be generally performed days or weeks after vaccine administration.

A combination of an antigen or immunomodulatory molecule and an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof, can be tested in a variety of preclinical toxicological and safety studies well known in the art. For example, such a combination can be evaluated in an animal model in which the antigen has been found to be immunogenic and that can be reproducibly immunized by the same route proposed for human clinical testing. A combina- 15 tion of an antigen or immunomodulatory molecule and an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide or modification thereof can be tested, for example, by an approach set forth by the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research/Food and Drug Administration and National Institute of Allergy and Infec- 20 tious Diseases (Goldenthal, K L et al. AID Res Hum Retroviruses, 9:S45-9 (1993)).

Those skilled in the art will know how to determine for a particular combination of antigen or immunomodulatory molecule and immunomodulatory flagellin polypeptide 25 modification thereof, the appropriate antigen payload, route of immunization, volume of dose, purity of antigen, and vaccination regimen useful to treat a particular pathological condition in a particular animal species.

The invention provides a method of inducing a TLR5- 30 mediated response. The method involves administering to a TLR5-containing cell an effective amount of an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide having at least about 10 amino acids of substantially the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, or a modification thereof.

A TLR5-mediated response can be assessed in a cell or animal because TLR5 stimulates cellular activities that stimulate the immune response that occurs in an animal. For example, flagellin binding to TLR5 induces cellular events such as TNF $\alpha$ , IL-1 and IL-6. These cytokines in turn regulate the activities of immune system cells. Therefore a TLR5mediated response can be determined by examining an immune responses in an animal and by observing particular immune system cell activities. Determination of immune 45 responses in an animal is discussed below. Determination of immune system cell activities can be performed, for example, by observing or measuring the amount of activity of immunomodulatory molecules produced by specific types of immune cells. Cytokine production by macrophages is an 50 exemplary immune cell activity that can be conveniently measured using methods well known in the art and those described herein. A biological activity of a cytokine can also be assessed using methods well known in the art. TNF $\alpha$ activities include, for example, inducing the production of 55 IL-1 and IL-6, activation of neutrophils and endothelial cells in inflammation, inducing acute phase reactants in liver, inducing fever. IL-1 activities include, for example, activating of endothelial cells in inflammation and coagulation, inducing acute phage reactants in liver, inducing fever and stimu- 60 lating T cell proliferation. IL-6 activities include, for example, stimulating proliferation of mature B cells and inducing their final maturation into antibody-producing plasma cells, inducing IL-2 receptor expression, inducing acute phase reactants in liver, and co-stimulation of thy- 65 mocytes in vitro. A regulatory effect of IL-6 is inhibition of TNFα production, providing negative feedback for limiting

the acute inflammatory response (Feghali, C. A. and Wright, T. M., Frontiers in Bioscience, 2, d12-26 (1997) provides a summary of cytokine activities).

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The invention provides a method of inducing an immune response in an individual having a pathological condition. The method involves administering to said individual an immunogenic amount of an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide having at least about 10 amino acids of substantially the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, or a modification thereof.

As described above, an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide can be used to beneficially boost a general immune response in an individual having a pathological condition by stimulating an innate immune response. An increased immune response can ameliorate a pathological condition as well as prevent a pathological condition in a healthy individual, or individual not having a pathological condition. Therefore, an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide can be administered prophylactically to an individual not having a pathological condition, if desired.

The invention provides another method of modulating an immune response in an individual having a pathological condition. The method involves administering to the individual a combination of an immunogenic amount of an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide having at least about 10 amino acids of substantially the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, or a modification thereof, and another immunomodulatory molecule.

As described above, a combination of an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide with another immunomodulatory molecule can be used to advantageously induce or modulate an immune response. An immune response can be induced by combining an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide with another immunomodulatory molecule that induces an immune response in a general manner, such as an adjuvant, or can be combined with an immunomodulatory molecule that induces a particular alteration in an immune cell activity. Such immunomodulatory molecules are described herein.

Modulating an immune response is useful for promoting a such as an increase in the amount or activity of cytokines, 40 more effective or more normal immune response in an individual having a pathological condition. As described above, alterations in normal cytokine levels are associated with various pathological conditions. An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide or combination with another immunomodulatory molecule can be used to modulate cytokine levels in an individual by inducing the production of immunomodulatory molecules, such as cytokines including TNF $\alpha$ , IL-1, and IL-6 through TLR5, and inducing the production of suppression of the same or different immunomodulatory molecules through the activity of the administered immunomodulatory molecule.

> Therefore, the immunomodulatory flagellin peptides of the invention can be combined with immunomodulatory molecules that alter an immune response by stimulating or inhibiting the cellular functions of immune system cells.

> A variety of immunomodulatory molecules can be used in combination with an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide or modification thereof of the invention to alter an immune response in an individual. The type of alteration desired will determine the type of immunomodulatory molecule selected to be combined with an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide. For example, to promote an innate immune response, a immunomodulatory flagellin peptide can be combined with another immunomodulatory molecule that promotes an innate immune response, such as a PAMP or conserved region known or suspected of inducing an innate immune response. A variety of PAMPs are known to stimulate the activities of

different members of the toll-like family of receptors. Such PAMPs can be combined to stimulate a particular combination of toll-like receptors that induce a beneficial cytokine profile. For example, PAMPs can be combined to stimulate a cytokine profile that induces a TH1 or TH2 immune response. 5

Other types of immunomodulatory molecules that promote humoral or cell-mediated immune responses can be combined with a flagellin molecule of the invention. For example, cytokines can be administered to alter the balance of TH1 and TH2 immune responses. Those skilled in the art will know how to determine the appropriate cytokines useful for obtaining a beneficial alteration in immune response for a particular pathological condition.

Immunomodulatory molecules that target antigens and cells displaying antigens for destruction can be combined 15 with a flagellin molecule of the invention. For example, the effectiveness of monoclonal antibodies and ADCC targeting molecules that recognize a particular antigen on an unwanted cell, such as a pathologically aberrant cell can be increased when administered with a flagellin molecule of the invention. 20 Immunomodulatory molecules that stimulate or suppress cellular activities such as proliferation, migration, activation, interaction and differentiation can be combined with a flagellin molecule of the invention. For example, IL-2 can be used to stimulate proliferation of immune system cells, certain 25 interferons can be used to interfere with the rapid growth of cancer cells or to interfere with angiogenesis, and ganulocytecolony stimulating factor can be used to increase production of certain types of immune system cells and blood cells. A variety of immunostimulating and immunosupressing mol- 30 ecules and modalities are well known in the art and can be used in combination with a flagellin polypeptide, peptide or modification thereof, of the invention. A flagellin molecule of the invention increases the beneficial effect of an immunomodulatory molecule by inducing TLR5-mediated produc- 35 tion of immunomodulatory molecules that function in concert with a selected immunomodulatory molecule to produce a desired cytokine profile or cellular activity, or prime the adaptive immune response to respond to the selected immunomodulatory molecule.

The methods of the invention for using immunomodulatory flagellin peptides to induce an immune response are also applicable to a flagellin polypeptide, or a modification thereof. Accordingly, the invention provides a method of inducing an immune response in an individual, including a 45 human, having a pathological condition. The method involves administering to the individual an immunogenic amount of an immunomodulatory flagellin polypeptide, or modification thereof, when the flagellin polypeptide induces an immune response.

An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide of the invention binds to TLR5 and stimulates a TLR5 activity. The ability of an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide or modification thereof to bind to TLR5 or stimulate a TLR5 activity can be determined using methods known in the art. Methods of 55 determining specific binding interactions of flagellin peptides and modifications thereof with TLR5 can be determined using well known methods in the art such as methods of trapping ligand-receptor complexes using chemical cross-linking, and competitive inhibition of reagents specific for 60 TLR5 such as specific flagellin peptides or modifications, antibodies or other TLR-5 specific reagents.

Methods of determining TLR5 functional activities in response to an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide or modification thereof include methods described herein, in 65 Examples I through IV, as well as methods known in the art. A variety of methods well known in the art can be used for

determining transcription factor activities. For example, fos, jun, and NF-κB activation in response to TLR5 binding to a flagellin molecule can be detected by electrophoretic mobility shift assays well known in the art that detect NF-κB binding to specific polynucleic acid sequences, and promoterreporter nucleic acid constructs such that, for example, β-lactamase, luciferase, green fluorescent protein or β-galactosidase will be expressed in response to contacting a TLR5 with a flagellin polypeptide, peptide or equivalent thereof. For example, a luciferase reporter plasmid in which luciferase protein expression is driven by one or more NF-κB binding sites can be transfected into a cell, as described in Examples I-IV. Activation of NF-κB results in activation of luciferase reporter expression, resulting in production of luciferase enzyme able to catalyze the generation of a molecule that can be detected by colorimetric, fluorescence, chemiluminescence or radiometric assay.

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An amount or activity of a polypeptide, including a cytokine such as TNF $\alpha$ , IL-1 or IL-6, can be a read-out for activation of a TLR5 in response to binding an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide or modification thereof. A variety of methods well known in the art can be used to measure cytokine amounts, such as, for example, flow cytometry methods, immunoassays such as ELISA and RIA, and cytokine RNA protection assays. Commercially available cytokine assay kits, such as ELISA assay formats, can be conveniently used to determine the amount of a variety of cytokines in a sample. Those skilled in the art will determine the particular cytokines to be measured when assessing an immune response in a cell or animal. For example, to determine whether a particular response is characterized as a TH1 or TH2 immune response, those skilled in the art will be able to select appropriate cytokines within the TH1 and TH2 categories, which are well known in the art.

A sample used for determining a TLR5-mediated response or immune response can include, for example, a fluid or tissue obtained from an animal, a cell obtained from an animal fluid or tissue, cultured cells including in vitro and ex vivo cultured cells, and lysates or fractions thereof and cultured cells that express TLR5.

An immune response in an animal is determined by the collective responses of the cells of the immune system. An immune response can be detected by observing various indicators of immune response in an animal. Such indicators include, for example, visible signs of inflammation of tissues, such as swelling, production of antibodies, such as levels of IgA, IgG and IgM in blood and levels of IgA in saliva, alterations in immune cell numbers, such as increased or decreased proliferation of particular immune cells, and in immune cell activities, such as production of immunomodulatory molecules and second messenger molecules. For example, an immune response to a particular antigen can be observed in a animal using methods well known in the art such as delayed hypersensitivity skin tests. An immune response can be determined by the presence of antibodies cross reactive with an antigen, such as by ELISA and Western blotting, lymphocyte activation tests employing mitogen or antigen stimulation, mixed lymphocyte culture tests, assays for human T and B lymphocytes, flow cytometry and cell sorting to characterize populations of immune system cells obtained from an individual, soluble antigen uptake by macrophages, and tests of neutrophil functions (Stites et al. Basic and Clinical Immunology, 4th edition, Lange Medical Publications, Los Altos, Calif. (1982)). An immune response can also be assessed by examining amounts or activities of immune system mediators, such as cytokines and chemokines, in cells collected from fluids or tissues of animals. A

variety of methods are well known in the art for qualitative and quantitative measurement of cytokine amount and bioassay of cytokine activity.

The methods of the invention for inducing an immune response can be used to treat any animal species having an immune response upon treatment with flagellin polypeptide, peptide, or modification thereof, and for which a stimulation of an immune response is desired. Such animals include avian species such as chicken, and mammalian species such as rodent, canine, feline, bovine, porcine and human subjects. Methods for using adjuvants with vaccines and vaccinating animals are well known in the art and are routinely used in laboratory animals. Those skilled in the art will be able to determine if a particular animal species has a flagellin-stimulated TLR5-mediated innate immune response.

A vaccine to be used in the methods of the invention for inducing an immune response can be administered as a solution or suspension together with a pharmaceutically acceptable medium. Such a pharmaceutically acceptable medium 20 can be, for example, water, phosphate buffered saline, normal saline or other physiologically buffered saline, or other solvent or vehicle such as glycol, glycerol, and oil such as olive oil or an injectable organic ester. A pharmaceutically acceptable medium can also contain liposomes or micelles, and can 25 contain immunostimulating complexes prepared by mixing polypeptide or peptide antigens with detergent and a glycoside, such as Quil A. Further methods for preparing and administering an immunomodulatory flagellin polypeptide or peptide, or modification in a pharmaceutically acceptable 30 medium are presented below, in reference to compounds that induce a TLR-mediated response.

The immunomodulatory flagellin polypeptides, peptides and modifications thereof used in the methods of the invention can be administered by a variety of routes to stimulate an 35 immune response. For example, these immunomodulatory molecules can be delivered intranasally, subcutaneously, intradermally, intralymphatically, intra-muscularly, intratumorally, orally, intravesically, intraperitoneally and intracerebrally. Oral administration is convenient and relatively safe. 40 Oral vaccination protocols can be useful for inducing the state of immunological tolerance which normally occurs in response to most soluble antigens and the proteolytic degradation of antigen preparations in the digestive tract. Nasal delivery routes may be useful for inducing both mucosal and 45 systemic immune responses. A variety of devices are under development for convenient and effective delivery of formulations to the nasal cavity and pulmonary tissues. Those skilled in the art will know how to select appropriate delivery routes for particular formulations of flagellin polypeptides, 50 peptides and modifications thereof.

The invention provides a screening composition consisting of an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide comprising at least about 10 amino acids of substantially the amino acid sequence GAVQNRFNSAIT (SEQ ID NO:2), or a modifica-55 tion thereof, and having toll-like receptor 5 (TLR5) binding, and a TLR5. The composition is useful for identifying agonists, antagonists and ligands for TLR5. The characteristics of an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide comprising at least about 10 amino acids of substantially the amino acid 60 sequence GAVQNRFNSAIT (SEQ ID NO:2), or a modification thereof, and having toll-like receptor 5 (TLR5) binding, and preparation of a flagellin peptide are described herein. Similarly, the characteristics of a TLR5 polypeptide and modifications thereof that have a TLR5 activity, and methods 65 for preparing a TLR5 polypeptide to be used in the methods of the invention are described herein. Chimeric TLR5s, such as

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the CD4-TLR5 described herein in Example I, are included in the screening compositions of the invention.

The screening composition of the invention includes, for example, cells, cell extracts and artificial signaling systems that contain a TLR5 polypeptide or modification thereof. The cell compositions of the invention include any cell in which TLR5 can couple to a signal transduction pathway to produce a detectable signal in response to an agonist, such as flagellin or a flagellin peptide. Such cells include insect cells such as Drosophila cells, yeast cells such as S. cerevisiae, prokaryotic cells such as E. coli, amphibian cells such as Xenopus oocytes, and vertebrate cells such as mammalian primary cells, such as macrophages. Primary cells such as macrophages and other lymphocytes can be conveniently isolated from blood using methods well known in the art. Cells obtained from transgenic animals, such as transgenic mice that have been engineered by known methods of express recombinant TLR5 or TLR5 signal transduction components are also included in the screening compositions of the invention. Cell lines prepared from any of theses cell types, such as S2, CHO, NIH-3T3, 293 and HeLa cells are also included in a screening composition of the invention.

The screening compositions of the invention can include crude or partially purified lysates or extracts of the cell compositions of the invention, and reconstituted signaling systems. Artificial signaling systems include, for example, natural or artificial lipid bilayers, such as a liposome or micelle, which promote an active conformation of a TLR5. The compositions can further contain cellular fractions or isolated components necessary for producing and detecting the desired predetermined signal.

The invention provides a method of screening for a TLR5 ligand, agonist or antagonist. The method involves, (a) contacting a TLR5 with a candidate compound in the presence of a flagellin polypeptide or immunomodulatory flagellin peptide under conditions wherein binding of the flagellin polypeptide or immunomodulatory flagellin peptide to the TLR5 produces a predetermined signal; (b) determining the production of the predetermined signal in the presence of the candidate compound; and (c) comparing the predetermined signal in the presence of the candidate compound with a predetermined signal in the absence of the candidate compound, wherein a difference between the predetermined signals in the presence and absence of the candidate compound indicates that the compound is a TLR5 ligand, agonist or antagonist.

TLR5 can produce a variety of predetermined signals useful in the methods of the invention for identifying a TLR5 ligand, agonist or antagonist. TLR5 has an extracellular domain that participates in ligand recognition and intracellular domain that contain a conserved region called the Toll/IL-1R homology (TIR) domain that, upon activation, recruits an adaptor protein, MyD88. Through an amino terminal death domain, MyD88 recruits the serine kinase IRAK to propagate a pro-inflammatory signal through binding to TRAF6, which then binds to other molecules that participate in the TLR5 signaling cascade. Immunomodulatory flagellin peptides and modifications binding to TLR5 induces signal transduction events which result in, for example, stimulating NF-κB activity and inducing production of gene products of NF-κBregulated genes, such as TNFα, IL-1 and IL-6, as well as stimulating AP-1 transcription factors fos and jun. Therefore, a predetermined signal can include a signal produced by an immunomodulatory flagellin polypeptide or peptide or modification binding to TLR5, a signal produced by a TLR5 intracellular signal transduction even, such as kinase or phosphatase activity or protein-protein interactions, by activation

of fos, jun or NF- $\kappa$ B, and by an amount or activity of a fos-, jun- or NF- $\kappa$ B-regulated gene or gene product, such as TNF $\alpha$ , IL-1 and IL-6.

A variety of low- and high-throughput assays suitable for detecting selective binding interactions between a receptor 5 and a ligand are known in the art. Both direct and competitive assays can be performed, including, for example, fluorescence correlation spectroscopy (FCS) and scintillation proximity assays (SAP) reviewed in Major, J. Receptor and Signal Transduction Res. 15:595-607 (1995); and in Sterrer et al., J. 10 Receptor and Signal Transduction Res. 17:511-520 (1997)). Other assays for detecting binding interactions include, for example, ELISA assays, FACS analysis, and affinity separation methods. Such assays can involve labeling a TLR5 ligand, such as flagellin or a flagellin peptide, with a detectable moiety such as a radiolabel, fluorochrome, ferromagnetic substance, or luminescent substance. A detectably labeled flagellin polypeptide or peptide can be prepared using methods well known in the art. Receptor binding assays, including high-throughput automated binding assays, and 20 methods of determining binding affinity from such assays, are well known in the art, and any suitable direct or competitive binding assay can be used. Exemplary high-throughput receptor binding assays are described, for example, in Mellentin-Micelotti et al., Anal. Biochem. 272:P 182-190 (1999); 25 Zuck et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 96:11122-11127 (1999); and Zhang et al., Anal. Biochem. 268; 134-142 (1999).

A variety of methods well known in the art can be used to detect activation of transcription factors, such as NF-κB, in 30 low- or high-throughput formats. The methods described herein and in the Examples can be adapted to formats suitable for candidate compound screening.

A variety of low- and high-throughput assays suitable for detecting amounts and activities of polypeptides such as 35 cytokines are known in the art. Methods for detecting polypeptides, include, for example, flow cytometric measurements as described herein, immunodetection methods such as radioimmune assay (RIA), ELISA, immunoprecipitation and Western blotting. Assay of the activity of a cytokine include 40 function bioassays and detection of amounts of polypeptides regulated by a particular cytokine. Those skilled in the art can determine an appropriate method for detecting an activity of a particular cytokine.

Suitable conditions under which TLR5 produces a predetermined signal in response to a flagellin polypeptide, peptide or modification can be determined by those skilled in the art, and will depend on the particular predetermined signal selected. Exemplary conditions for determining the production of a predetermined signal are provided herein in 50 Examples I-IV. Any known or predicted TLR5-mediated cellular event, such as elicitation of second messengers, induction of gene expression or altered cellular proliferation, differentiation or viability can be a predetermined signal that is an indication of activation of signal transduction through 55 TLR5.

Assays for detecting a predetermined signal produced by binding of flagellin or flagellin peptide to TLR5 can be performed, for example, with whole cells that express TLR5, membrane fractions, or artificial systems, as described 60 herein, or with isolated TLR5 polypeptide, either in solution, in an artificial membrane, or bound to a solid support.

A method of identifying TLR5 agonists and antagonists can be performed either in the presence of a predetermined concentration of a known TLR5 agonist, such as flagellin, 65 flagellin peptide, or modifications thereof, or in the absence of agonist. The agonist can be added either prior to, simulta-

neously with, or after, addition of the test compound. When present, the agonist concentration is preferably within 10-fold of its EC50 under the assay conditions to allow the identification of a compound that competes with a known agonist for signaling through TLR5, or indirectly augments signaling through the receptor. Likewise, a compound that reduces binding between a known agonist and its receptor, or indirectly decreases signaling through the receptor, can also be identified.

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The method of screening to identify a ligand, agonist or antagonist of TLR5 involve testing a candidate compound. A candidate compound can be any substance, molecule, compound, mixture of molecules or compounds, or any other composition. The candidate compounds can be small molecules or macromolecules, such as biological polymers, including proteins, polysaccharides and nucleic acids. Sources of candidate compounds which can be screened for a ligand, agonist or antagonist of TLR5 include, for example, libraries of small molecules, peptides and polypeptides.

Additionally, candidate compounds can be preselected based on a variety of criteria. For example, suitable candidate compounds can be selected as having known ligand, agonist or antagonist activity. Alternatively, candidate compounds can be selected randomly. Candidate compounds can be administered to the reaction system at a single concentration or, alternatively, at a range of concentrations to determine, for example, an EC50 or IC50 of a candidate compound.

The method of screening for TLR5 ligands, agonists or antagonists can involve groups or libraries of compounds. Methods for preparing large libraries of compounds, including simple or complex organic molecules, carbohydrates, peptides, peptidomimetics, polypeptides, nucleic acids, antibodies, and the like, are well known in the art. Libraries containing large numbers of natural and synthetic compounds can be obtained from commercial sources.

The number of different candidate compounds to examine using the methods of the invention will depend on the application of the method. It is generally understood that the larger the number of candidate compounds, the greater the likelihood of identifying a compound having the desired activity in a screening assay. Large numbers of compounds can be processed in a high-throughput automated format.

The TLR5 agonists, antagonists and ligands identified using the methods and compositions described herein, are potential therapeutic compounds that can be administered to an individual, such as a human or other mammal, in an effective amount to increase or decrease signaling through TLR5, for example, to alter an immune response or treat a TLR5-associated condition. Such compounds can be used analogously to immunomodulatory compounds useful for augmenting and altering an immune response, as described above. For example, a compound can be used to induce a general immune response and to induce a specific immune response in the presence of an antigen and to alter the level of a particular cytokine in an individual having a pathological condition.

The TLR5 agonists and antagonists, immunomodulatory flagellin peptides, polypeptides and modifications thereof, are useful for ameliorating, or reducing the severity of a pathological condition. Reduction in severity includes, for example, an arrest or decrease in clinical symptoms, physiological indicators, biochemical markers or metabolic indicators of disease. Those skilled in the art will know, or will be able to determine the appropriate clinical symptoms, physiological indicators, biochemical markers or metabolic indicators to observe for a particular pathological condition. To

prevent a disease means to preclude the occurrence of a disease or restoring a diseased individual to their state of health prior to disease.

In addition to applications described herein for agonists and antagonists, a TLR5 ligand can be used, for example, to specifically target a diagnostic moiety to cells and tissues that express TLR5, such as monocytes, immature dendritic cells, epithelial cells, and other cells involved in an immune response. Thus, a TLR5 ligand can be labeled with a detectable moiety, such as a radiolabel, fluorochrome, ferromagnetic substance, or luminescent substance, and used to detect normal or abnormal expression of TLR5 polypeptide in an isolated sample or in vivo diagnostic imaging procedures.

A heterologous amino acid sequence can be advantageously used to provide a tag for detection or purification or to impart an activity to a reference polypeptide or peptide, such as an enzyme activity, a biological activity, an immunological activity or stability. An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof, or TLR5 20 polypeptide can contain a heterologous amino acid sequence, or amino acid sequence not present in the native amino acid sequence of a reference polypeptide or peptide and not represented by a modification of a reference polypeptide or peptide. A heterologous amino acid sequence can be of any size 25 in relation to the reference amino acid sequence. A TLR5 polypeptide containing the heterologous sequence of CD4 is a specific example of such a modification and is described further in Example I. The described CD4-TLR5 chimera is identified by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10, 30 encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:9. A chimeric TLR5 can be prepared using cloning methods well known in the art. For example, a chimeric polypeptide can be produced by amplifying by PCR a nucleotide sequence encoding a portion of a selected polypeptide using sequence 35 specific primers. Primers useful for amplifying a TLR5 include, for example, huTLR5-A6: TTAAAGTGGTAC-CAGTTCTCCCTTTTCATTGT ATGCACT (SEQ ID NO:35) and huTLR5DNS: CGGGATCCCGTTAGGAG ATGGTTGCTACAGTTTGC (SEQ ID NO:36). A portion of 40 a TLR5 nucleotide sequence, such as a sequence amplified using such primers can be fused to a nucleotide sequence encoding a heterologous amino acid sequence. A variety of methods for generating nucleic acid sequences encoding chimeric polypeptides are well known to those skilled in the art. 45

The polypeptides and peptides described herein, including immunomodulatory flagellin peptides, flagellin polypeptide, TLR5 polypeptides and fragments thereof can be prepared using a variety of protein expression systems well known in the art, including prokaryotic and eukaryotic expression sys- 50 tems. Prokaryotic expression systems are advantageous due to their ease in manipulation, low complexity growth media, low cost of growth media, rapid growth rates and relatively high yields. Well known prokaryotic expression systems include, for example, E. coli bacterial expression systems 55 based on bacteriophage T7 RNA polymerase, the trc promoter, the araB promoter and bacillus expression. Eukaryotic expression systems are advantageous because expressed polypeptides can contain eukaryotic post-translational modifications such as O-linked glycosylation, phosphorylation 60 and acetylation and can have improved protein folding. Well known eukaryotic expression systems include, for example, expression in yeast, such as *Pichia pastoris* and *Pichia metha*nolica, expression in insect systems such as the Drosophila S2 system and baculovirus expression systems and expression in mammalian cells using adenoviral vectors and cytomegalovirus promoter-containing vectors.

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An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide, TLR5 or fragments thereof can be purified using a variety of methods of protein purification well known in the art. Biochemical purification can include, for example, steps such as solubilization of the polypeptide or peptide-expressing cell, isolation of the desired subcellular fractions, chromatography, such as ion exchange, size, or affinity-based chromatographies, electrophoresis, and immunoaffinity procedures. Other well-known methods are described in Deutscher et al., Guide to Protein Purification: Methods in Enzymology Vol. 182, (Academic Press, (1990)). An exemplary method for purifying a flagellin peptide is provided in Example III. The methods and conditions for biochemical purification of a polypeptide of the invention can be chosen by those skilled in the art, and the purification monitored, for example, by staining SDS-PAGE gels containing protein samples, by immunodetection methods such as Western blotting and ELISA, and by functional assay of immunogenic activity of flagellin or a TLR5 activity of TLR5.

An immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide, TLR5 or fragments thereof can be modified, for example, to increase polypeptide stability, alter an activity, facilitate detection or purification, or render the enzyme better suited for a particular application, such as by altering substrate specificity. Computer programs known in the art can be used to determine which amino acid residues of a immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, flagellin polypeptide or TLR5 can be modified as described above without abolishing a corresponding activity (see, for example, Eroshkin et al., Comput. Appl. Biosci. 9:491-497 (1993)). In addition, structural and sequence information can be used to determine the amino acid residues important for activity. For example, a comparisons of flagellin amino acid sequences, such as that shown in FIG. 7 can provide guidance in determining amino acid residues that can be altered without abolishing flagellin or flagellin peptide activity by indicating amino acid residues that are conserved across species. Conserved regions of flagellin are well known in the art and have been described, for example, in Mimori-Kiyosue, et al., J. Mol. Viol. 270:222-237, (1997). A crystal structure of flagellin can also provide guidance for making flagellin modifications (Samatey et al. Nature, 410: 331-337 (2001)). Similarly, amino acid sequence comparisons between the disclosed murine TLR5, TLR5s of other species, and other toll-like receptor family members can provide guidance for determining amino acid residues important for activity.

An isolated TLR5 is a TLR5 removed from one or more components with which it is naturally associated. Therefore, an isolated TLR5 can be a cell lysate, cell fraction, such as a membrane fraction, or a purified TLR5 polypeptide. An isolated TLR5 can include a liposome or other compound or matrix that stabilizes or promotes an active conformation of the receptor.

For treating or reducing the severity of a pathological condition a TLR5 agonist or antagonist, immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof, including a vaccine, can be formulated and administered in a manner and in an amount appropriate for the condition to be treated; the weight, gender, age and health of the individual; the biochemical nature, bioactivity, bioavailability and side effects of the particular compound; and in a manner compatible with concurrent treatment regimens. An appropriate amount and formulation for a particular therapeutic application in humans can be extrapolated based on the activity of the compound in recognized animal models of the particular disorder.

Animal models of aberrantly proliferative diseases can be used to assess a formulation of compound, including a vaccine or adjuvant containing an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof, for an amount sufficient to induce an immune response or ameliorate disease symptoms. Animal models of such pathological conditions well known in the art which are reliable predictors of treatments in human individuals for include, for example, animal models for tumor growth and metastasis, infectious diseases and autoimmune disease.

There are numerous animal tumor models predictive of therapeutic treatment which are well known in the art. These models generally include the inoculation or implantation of a laboratory animal with heterologous tumor cells followed by simultaneous or subsequent administration of a therapeutic 15 treatment. The efficacy of the treatment is determined by measuring the extent of tumor growth or metastasis. Measurement of clinical or physiological indicators can alternatively or additionally be assessed as an indicator of treatment efficacy. Exemplary animal tumor models can be found 20 described in, for example, Brugge et al., *Origins of Human Cancer*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Plain View, N.Y., (1991).

Similarly, animal models predictive for infectious disease also follow a similar approach. Briefly, laboratory animals are 25 inoculated with an infectious agent and the progression of the infection is monitored by, for example, clinical symptoms, growth culture of the agent from an infected tissue sample or biopsy in the presence or absence of the therapeutic treatment. The reduction in severity of the diagnostic indicator is 30 indicative of the efficacy of the treatment. A variety of animal models for infectious diseases are well known to those skilled in the art.

One animal model predictive for autoimmune diseases is Experimental allergic encephalomyelitis (EAE), also called 35 experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis. Although originally characterized as a model for neurological autoimmune disease such as human multiple sclerosis, the use of this model to predict treatments of other autoimmune diseases has been widely accepted. EAE is induced in susceptible animals 40 by active immunization with myelin basic protein (MPB) or by passive transfer of MBP-specific T helper lymphocytes. Progression of the disease is characterized by chronic relapsing paralysis and central nervous system demyelination, which can be monitored by observation or by immunological 45 determinants such as delayed-type hypersensitivity (DTH; a measure of cell mediated immunity) response to the immunogen. Efficacy of a therapeutic treatment is compared to progression of the disease in the absence of treatment. A reduction in severity of EAE symptoms or immunological 50 determinants in treated animals is indicative of the efficacy of the therapeutic treatment. For a review of autoimmune disease models see, for example, Urban et al., Cell, 54:577-592 (1988); Brostoff et al., Immunol. Ser. 59:203-218 (1993) and U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,614,192 and 5,612,035.

A growing number of human diseases have been classified as autoimmune and include, for example, rheumatoid arthritis, myasthenia gravis, multiple sclerosis, psoriasis, systemic lupus erythmatosis, autoimmune thyroiditis, Graves' disease, inflammatory bowel disease, autoimmune uveoretinitis, 60 polymyositis and diabetes. Animal models for many of these have been developed and can be employed analogously as the EAE model described above predictive assessment of therapeutic treatments using the compounds, vaccines and adjuvants in the methods of the invention.

Other reliable and predictive animal models are well known in the art and similarly can be used to assess a compound formulation, including vaccine and adjuvant formulations containing an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof.

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The total amount of a compound including an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof, that modulates a TLR5-mediated immune response can be administered as a single dose or by infusion over a relatively short period of time, or can be administered in multiple doses administered over a more prolonged period of time. Additionally, a compound can be administered in a slow-release matrix, which can be implanted for systemic delivery at or near the site of the target tissue.

A compound that modulates a TLR5-mediated immune response can be administered to an individual using a variety of methods known in the art including, for example, intravenously, intramuscularly, subcutaneously, intraorbitally, intracapsularly, intraperitoneally, intracisternally, intra-articularly, intracerebrally, orally, intravaginally, rectally, topically, intranasally, or transdermally.

A compound that modulates a TLR5-mediated immune response can be administered to a subject as a pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. The choice of pharmaceutically acceptable carrier depends on the route of administration of the compound and on its particular physical and chemical characteristics. Pharmaceutically acceptable carriers are well known in the art and include sterile aqueous solvents such as physiologically buffered saline, and other solvents or vehicles such as glycols, glycerol, oils such as olive oil and injectable organic esters. A pharmaceutically acceptable carrier can further contain physiologically acceptable compounds that stabilize the compound, increase its solubility, or increase its absorption. Such physiologically acceptable compounds include carbohydrates such as glucose, sucrose or dextrans; antioxidants, such as ascorbic acid or glutathione; chelating agents; and low molecular weight proteins. As described above in reference to vaccines, such routes of administration are also applicable to administration of an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof.

In addition, a formulation of a compound that modulates a TLR5-mediated immune response can be incorporated into biodegradable polymers allowing for sustained release of the compound, the polymers being implanted in the vicinity of where drug delivery is desired, for example, at the site of a tumor or implanted so that the compound is released systemically over time. Osmotic minipumps also can be used to provide controlled delivery of specific concentrations of a compound through cannulae to the site of interest, such as directly into a tumor growth or other site of a pathology involving a perturbation state. The biodegradable polymers and their use are described, for example, in detail in Brem et al., J. Neurosurg. 74:441-446 (1991). These methods, in addition to those described above in reference to vaccines, are applicable to administering an immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof to induce an immune response.

The methods of treating a pathological condition additionally can be practiced in conjunction with other therapies. For example, for treating cancer, the methods of the invention can be practiced prior to, during, or subsequent to conventional cancer treatments such as surgery, chemotherapy, including administration of cytokines and growth factors, radiation or other methods known in the art. Similarly, for treating pathological conditions which include infectious disease, the methods of the invention can be practiced prior to, during, or subsequent to conventional treatments, such as antibiotic administration, against infectious agents or other methods

known in the art. Treatment of pathological conditions of autoimmune disorders also can be accomplished by combining the methods of the invention for inducing an immune response with conventional treatments for the particular autoimmune diseases. Conventional treatments include, for example, chemotherapy, steroid therapy, insulin and other growth factor and cytokine therapy, passive immunity and inhibitors of T cell receptor binding. The methods of the invention can be administered in conjunction with these or other methods known in the art and at various times prior, during or subsequent to initiation of conventional treatments. For a description of treatments for pathological conditions characterized by aberrant cell growth see, for example, *The Merck Manual*, Sixteenth Ed, (Berkow, R., Editor) Rahway, 15

As described above, administration of a compound, immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, flagellin polypeptide or modification thereof can be, for example, simultaneous with or delivered in alternative administrations with the conven- 20 tional therapy, including multiple administrations. Simultaneous administration can be, for example, together in the same formulation or in different formulations delivered at about the same time or immediately in sequence. Alternating administrations can be, for example, delivering an immuno- 25 modulatory flagellin peptide or polypeptide formulation and a conventional therapeutic treatment in temporally separate administrations. As described previously, the temporally separate administrations of a compound, immunomodulatory flagellin peptide, polypeptide or modification thereof, and conventional therapy can similarly use different modes of delivery and routes.

The invention provides a method of using a signal produced in response to flagellin binding to TLR5 to detect bacterial contamination in a sample. The method can be used to detect picogram amounts of flagellin in a sample.

Food-born diseases resulting from the presence of harmful bacteria account for 325,000 hospitalizations and 5,000 deaths each year in the United States (National Institutes of 40 Health, Foodborne Diseases NIAID Fact Sheet). The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that 1.4 million people in the United States are infected each year with *Salmonella*. Other bacterial pathogens that cause pathological conditions characterized by symptoms ranging 45 from intestinal discomfort to severe dehydration, bloody diarrhea and even death, include enterohemorrhagic *E. coli*, such as strains designated O157:H7 and O26:H11, *Campylobacter* strains such as *C. jejuni*, and *Shigella* strains such as *S. flexneri*.

All of these bacterial strains are flagellated, and therefore express flagellin polypeptides. For example, the amino acid sequences of flagellins from *Salmonella*, *E. coli*, *Campylobacter*, *Shigella* strains are shown in FIG. 7. The methods of the invention for detecting flagellin polypeptides contained in samples suspected of bacterial contamination can be applied to quality assurance protocols for preparation of foods and numerous other applications.

The invention also provides a bioassay for detecting bacterial contamination in a sample. The method involves, (a) 60 contacting the sample with a TLR5 under conditions wherein binding of a flagellin polypeptide or fragment thereof in the sample to the TLR5 produces a predetermined signal, (b) determining the production of the predetermined signal in the presence and absence of the sample, and (c) comparing the 65 predetermined signal in the presence of the sample with a predetermined signal in the absence of the sample, wherein a

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difference between the predetermined signals in the presence and absence of the sample indicates that the sample contains flagellin.

The methods of the invention for detecting bacterial contamination are based on the finding disclosed herein that flagellin is a ligand for TLR5. Therefore, a flagellin molecule in a sample can bind to a TLR5 and elicit the production of a predetermined signal. A predetermined signal produced by TLR5 in a particular assay system is compared in the presence and absence of a sample known or suspected of containing a bacterial contaminant. A sample known to be free of flagellin can be used as a negative control, while a sample containing a known concentration of flagellin, flagella or bacteria having flagella can be used as a positive control.

A sample to be tested for the presence of flagellin can be any material that is suspected of being contaminated with a gram-positive or gram-negative flagellated bacterium. For example, the method for determining the presence of flagellin can be performed using a sample of a biological fluid, cell, tissue, organ or portion thereof, such as a sample of a tissue to be used for preparing a product, a product for human or animal consumption, such as a food or pharmaceutical preparation, and a product for external application or administration by any route to an animal.

A variety of predetermined signals produced by a TLR5, as discussed above and in the Examples herein, can be used to detect the binding and activation of a TLR5 by a flagellin molecule present in a sample. A variety of methods known in the art, including those described herein can be used to detect a predetermined signal produced by a TLR5.

It is understood that modifications which do not substantially affect the activity of the various embodiments of this invention are also included within the definition of the invention provided herein. Accordingly, the following examples are intended to illustrate but not limit the present invention.

### EXAMPLE I

### Constitutively Active TLR5 Activates NF- $\kappa B$ and TNF $\alpha$ Production

This example shows activation of NF- $\kappa B$  and TNF $\alpha$  production in CHO cells in response to constitutively active TLP5

To determine if TLR5 activates NF-κB and TNFα production, the activity of a constitutively active form of TLR5 was examined in CHO cells. Constitutively active forms of TLR4 and TLR5 were generated by fusing the extracellular domain of CD4 to the transmembrane and TIR domain of TLR4 or TLR5 (Medzihitov, R. et al. *Nature* 388, 394-7 (1997); Ozinsky, A. et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 97, 13766-13881 (2000)). CD4-TLR5 was constructed by fusing the murine CD4 extracellular domain (amino acids 1-391) to the putative transmembrane and cytoplasmic domains of human TLR5 (amino acids 639-859) and cloning into pEF6-TOPO (pEF6-mCD4-hTLR5). These chimeras, referred to as CD4-TLR4 and CD4-TLR5 were expressed in CHO cells.

For determining NF-κB activity in response to TLR5, CHO cells were transiently transfected with expression vectors for CD4-TLR4, CD4-TLR5, or empty expression vector (control) together with an NF-κB luciferase reporter. NF-κB-induced luciferase activity was measured. CHO cells (CHO-K1) were obtained from ATCC (no. CRL.-9618) and grown in Ham's F-12 medium supplemented with 10% FBS, L-glutamine, penicillin, and streptomycin. CHO cells were transfected by electroporation as described previously (Underhill, D. M. et al., *Nature*, 401, 811-5 (1999)), with 1 μg of

the indicated TLR expression vector, 1  $\mu g$  of ELAM-firefly luciferase, 0.1  $\mu g$  of TK-renilla luciferase (Promega). Cells were plated on 96-well plates at 100,000 cells/well, and incubated overnight at 37° C., 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. Firefly and renilla luciferase activities were measured using the Dual Luciferase 5 Assay System (Promega, Madison, Wis.). Luciferase activity is expressed as a ratio of NF- $\kappa$ B-dependent ELAM-firefly luciferase activity divided by control thymidine kinase-renilla luciferase activity (relative luciferase units).

For determining TNFα production in response to TLR5, 10 RAW-TTIO Macrophage cells were transfected with a CD4-TLR5 expression vector, and the production of TNFα was measured by flow cytometry, as described previously (Ozinsky, A. et al. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 97, 13766-13771 (2000)). Transfections were performed by electroporation using 10 μg of pEF6-mCD4-hTLR5, and 18 hours later the cells were incubated with 5 μg/ml of brefeldin A for 4 hours to accumulate intracellular pools of newly synthesized TNFα. Cells were fixed, permeabilized, stained for the expression of CD4 (anti-CD4-FITC, Pharmingen) and TNFα (anti-murine TNFα-PE, Pharmingen), and analyzed on a FACscan (Beckton-Dickenson). FACS data were analyzed with WinMDI (Joseph Trotter, Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif.). Cells were gated to exclude dead cells and for expression of CD4

FIG. 1 shows that expression of CD4-TLR5 induced NF- $\kappa$ B activation-mediated luciferase production in CHO cells (FIG. 1*a*) and TNF $\alpha$  production in mouse macrophages (FIG. 1*b*). In FIG. 1*b*, the dotted line indicates TNF $\alpha$  produced in cells not expressing CD4-TLR5, and the solid line indicates <sup>30</sup> TNF $\alpha$  produced in cells expressing CD4-TLR5.

Thus, homo-oligomerization of the TLR5 signaling domain induces a cellular signal characterized by the induction of NF- $\kappa$ B activity and production of TNF $\alpha$ .

### EXAMPLE II

## Bacterial Culture Supernatants Contain TLR5-Stimulating Activity

This Example shows that bacterial culture supernatants contain TLR5-stimulating activity.

CHO cells expressing human TLR5 and a luciferase-linked reporter were used to screen for PAMPs recognized by the receptor. PAMPS tested included LPS, lipopeptide, yeast, and 45 extracts from *E. coli, Pseudomonas*, and *Listeria*. CHO cells were transiently transfected with TLR2, TLR5, or empty expression vectors together with a NF- $\kappa$ B luciferase reporter. The cells were treated with 100 ng/ml LPS, 100 ng/ml lipopeptide,  $10^7$  yeast particles/ml, or untreated (control), and 50 luciferase activity was measured. The cells were treated with 67  $\mu$ g/ml of supernatant from the indicated saturated bacterial cultures, or LB alone (control), and the luciferase activity was measured. Data are representative of 3 independent experiments.

Human TLR5 and TLR2 were generated by PCR from cDNA derived from human peripheral blood mononuclear cells and cloned into pEF6-TOPO (Invitrogen) (pEF6-hTLR5 and pEF6-hTLR2). Murine TLR5 was generated by PCR using cDNA derived from RAW-TTIO cells and cloned into 60 pEF6 (pEF6-mTLR5).

For luciferase assays, CHO cells were transfected by electroporation as described above, with 1 µg of the indicated TLR expression vector, 1 µg of ELAM-firefly luciferase, 0.1 µg of TK-renilla luciferase (Promega, Madison, Wis.). The 65 medium was replaced with medium containing the stimuli at the indicated concentration/dilution. Bacterial lipopeptide

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and PAM<sub>3</sub>CSK<sub>4</sub>, were obtained from Roche, LPS (*Salmonella minnesota* R595) was from List, and yeast particles (zymosan) were from Molecular Probes (Eugene, Oreg.). Cells were stimulated for 5 hours at 37° C., and firefly and renilla luciferase activities were measured using the Dual Luciferase Assay System (Promega).

For preparation of bacterial supernatants, bacteria were grown either in Luria broth (LB) (Escherichia coli TOP 10 (Invitrogen), Salmonella minnesota (ATCC#49284), mutant Salmonella typhimurium (TH4778 fliB- fliC+), TH2795 (fliB-fliC-), (Dr. Kelly Hughes, University of Washington), or grown in trypticase soy broth (TSB) (Listeria monocytogenes (10403, gift of Dr. Daniel Portnoy, UCSF), Listeria innocua (ATCC#33090), Bacillus subtilis, and Pseudomonas aeruginosa (Susan R. Swanzy, University of Washington)). Bacteria were grown to saturation (about 16 hours, 37° C. with vigorous aeration). The bacterial culture supernatants were centrifuged for 30 minutes at 2000 $\times$ g, filtered. (0.2  $\mu$ M), and stored at 4° C. prior to use. For flaA transfections, E. coli TOP10 containing pTrcHis2-flaA or pTrcHis2-flaArev were selected from bacterial plates and grown to  $OD_{600}$  of 0.6 in LB with 100 µg/ml ampicillin and 1% w/v glucose. The bacteria were centrifuged for 30 minutes at 2000×g, and split into two LB cultures, one containing 100 µg/ml ampicillin and 1% w/v glucose (to repress flaA) and the other containing 100 µg/ml ampicillin and 1 mM IPTG (to induce flaA). Samples were taken at 4 hours after induction, centrifuged 5 min at 10,000×g, and the supernatants stored at 4° C. before

TLR5 did not respond to any of the PAMPs known to stimulate TLR pathways, such as LPS, lipopeptide, yeast cell wall, or peptidoglycan, while CHO cells transfected with TLR2 were stimulated by lipopeptide, yeast cell wall, and peptidoglycan (FIG. 2a). However, TLR5-stimulating activity was detected in culture supernatants of a variety of Grampositive and Gram-negative bacteria (FIG. 2b). The TLR5-stimulating activity of Gram-positive bacteria was not enhanced by co-expression of CD14. Interestingly, the TOP10 strain of *E. coli* had very little TLR5 activity (FIG. 2b), and was used in subsequent reconstitution experiments (see below). Experiments using murine TLR5 yielded similar results.

Thus, the activity of TLR5 was stimulated by a component of bacterial culture supernatants, but not by PAMPs known to stimulate other toll like receptor family members.

### EXAMPLE III

Purification of TLR5-Stimulating Activity from *L. monocytogenes* Culture Supernatant

This Example shows the purification of TLR5-simulating activity from *L. monocytogenes* culture supernatant.

The biological activity recognized by TLR5 was determined to be TCA precipitable, phenol soluble, and sensitive to proteinase K and trypsin digestion. To identify the bacterial components that stimulate TLR5, the supernatant from a saturated *L. monocytogenes* culture was concentrated, fractionated by reverse-phase chromatography, and each fraction was assessed for TLR5-stimulating activity in CHO cells (FIG. 3a).

For assessing the TLR-stimulating activity of FPLC fractions, CHO cells were transfected as described in Example I with the addition of 0.1 µg of pNeo/Tak (Underhill et al., Nature 401, 811-5 (1999)), and stable populations of cells expressing the indicated TLR with the luciferase reporters

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were selected in 100 µg/ml G418. These cells were plated on 96-well plates at 100,000 cells/well and incubated overnight.

For the purification of the TLR5-stimulating activity, saturated L. monocytogenes culture (200 ml of TSB) was centrifuged, and the supernatant was enriched for molecules larger 5 than 30 kDa by ultrafiltration (Ultrafree-15 filter unit with Biomax-30 membrane, Millipore). The buffer was changed to 100 mM Tris pH 7.5, and the volume was adjusted to 5 ml. The sample was loaded onto a HR5/10 reverse-phase chromatography column (AP Biotech) and run at 0.3 ml/min. 10 Reverse-phase chromatography was performed with the indicated elution profile using the following buffers: (A) initial buffer, 0.1% TFA in water, (B) final buffer, 0.1% TFA in acetonitrile. Fractions were collected at 3-minute intervals. FPLC fractions (50 μl) were separated on a 10% SDS-PAGE 15 gel.

As shown in FIG. 3a, CHO cells expressing an NF-κB luciferase reporter and TLR5 were stimulated with reversephase FPLC fractions, and TLR5-mediated NF-κB luciferase activity was measured. The fraction numbers correspond to 3 20 minute fractions of reverse-phase FPLC eluted with a nonlinear gradient of buffer B as shown. Fraction number "N" is control LB growth medium and "P" is the L. monocytogenes culture supernatant prior to chromatography. Fractions containing background activity (1), low activity (2) and high 25 activity (3) as indicated in FIG. 3a were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and silver stain. Silver staining was performed according to established methods. Two bands with apparent molecular masses of 30-34 kDa were clearly enriched in the fraction containing the highest level of TLR5-stimulating activity 30 (FIG. 3b, Lane 3). Proteins eluted from regions A, B, and C of the SDS-PAGE gel, as indicated in FIG. 3b were assayed for TLR5-mediated NF- $\kappa$ B activation in CHO cells. In FIG. 3c, "Listeria" indicates L. monocytogenes culture supernatant. One of these bands, (FIG. 3b, band A), was trypsin-treated, 35 subject to microcapillary HPLC-tandem mass spectrometry, and identified by comparison of peptide tandem mass spectra to sequences in a non redundant protein database using the computer program, SEQUEST27 (FIG. 4a). TLR5-stimulating activity was not recovered from any other section of the 40

Thus, a TLR5-stimulating activity was purified from culture supernatants from L. monocytogenes.

### EXAMPLE IV

## Flagellin is a TLR5 Stimulus

This example shows that flagellin is a TLR5 stimulus purified from culture supernatants from L. monocytogenes.

As described above, a TLR5-stimulating activity was purified from L. monocytogenes culture supernatants using HPLC. The isolated polypeptide of band A in FIG. 3b was trypsinized and identified by microcapillary HPLC-tandem mass spectrometry. Peaks corresponding to L. monocytoge- 55 reconstitutes TLR-stimulating activity, and deletion of flagelnes flagellin peptides are indicated in FIG. 4a. Five sequences were identified (FIG. 4a) that correspond to flagellin, the product of the flaA gene of L. monocytogenes (Genbank Q02551). The location of these sequences within the protein is indicated in FIG. 4b. Band B of FIG. 3b also is flagellin, 60 which migrates as a doublet of approximately 30 kDa on SDS-PAGE (FIG. 3b).

For analysis, bands A and B were excised from SDS-PAGE gels, dehydrated with acetonitrile, dried under reduced vacuum, and trypsin (12.5 ng/μL) was infused into the gel. 65 The gel slice was allowed to incubate on ice for 45 min in the presence of trypsin and then excess trypsin removed and

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replaced with 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate and the gel slice incubated overnight at 37° C. Peptides were extracted by 3 washes with 5% acetic acid in 50% aqueous acetonitrile. The extractions were pooled and concentrated by vacuum centrifugation. The peptides were injected onto a C18 peptide trap cartridge (Michrom BioResources, Inc. Auburn, Calif.), desalted, and then injected onto a 75 μm (internal diameter)× 10 cm micro-capillary HPLC column (Magic C18; 5-μm packing; 100 A pore size; Michrom BioResources, Inc. Auburn, Calif.). The sample injection was made using a FAMOS autosampler (LCPackings, San Francisco, Calif.) coupled with an Agilent HP1100 Pump. Peptides were separated by a linear gradient of acetonitrile, and subjected to collision induced dissociation using an electrospray ionization-ion trap mass spectrometer (ESI-ITMS; ThermoQuest, San Jose, Calif.) in data-dependent mode with dynamic exclusion (Goodlett, et al. Anal. Chem. 72, 1112-1118 (2000)). Protein identification was accomplished by use of the SEQUEST computer program (Eng et al. J. Am. Soc. Mass. Spectrom. 5, 976-989 (1994)).

CHO cells expressing an NF-kB luciferase reporter and TLR5 or TLR2 were stimulated with 100 µl/ml Listeria supernatant or 33 μg/ml purified Salmonella flagellin. Flagellin was purified from Salmonella typhimurium (TH4778 fliB-fliC+) by the procedure of Ibrahim et al., J. Clin. Microbiol. 22, 1040-1044 (1985). As shown in FIG. 4c, flagellin stimulated TLR5-expressing CHO cells, but not TLR2-expressing CHO cells. The mean and standard deviation of quadruplicate samples are indicated. CHO cells were transfected as described in above Examples with the addition of 0.1 µg of pNeo/Tak, and stable populations of cells expressing the indicated TLR with the luciferase reporters were selected in 100 µg/ml G418. These cells were plated on 96-well plates at 100,000 cells/well, incubated overnight, and processed in luciferase assays as described above.

The observation that flagellin is the TLR5 ligand also is supported by the finding that the flagellated bacteria, L. monocytogenes and P. aeruginosa, stimulate TLR5, while the TOP10 strain of E. coli, that has lost its flagella, does not

Similarly, TLR5-stimulating activity was found in B. subtilis, L. innocua, S. typhimurium and S. minnesota, all flagellated bacteria, while non-flagellated bacteria such as H. influenza, did not activate TLR5.

Thus, the TLR5-stimulating activity purified from L. monocytogenes culture supernatants was identified as flagellin by tandem mass spectrometry.

### EXAMPLE V

### Flagellin Expression in Bacteria Reconstitutes TLR5-Stimulating Activity

This Example shows that flagellin expression in bacteria lin genes abrogates TLR5-stimulating activity.

To confirm that flagellin is the sole TLR5 ligand in bacteria, E. coli (TOP10) that secrete little TLR5 activity (FIG. 2b) were transformed with the cDNA of L. monocytogenes flagellin (flaA) under the control of an inducible promoter. TLRexpressing CHO cells were stimulated for 5 hours with E. coli culture supernatants (67  $\mu$ l/ml) in which expression of L. monocytogenes flagellin was induced or repressed. In the control sample, CHO cells were stimulated with supernatants from induced E. coli containing the L. monocytogenes flagellin gene cloned in the reverse orientation. Supernatants of *E*. coli that were induced to express L. monocytogenes flaA

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contained substantial TLR5-stimulating activity (FIG. 5a), whereas supernatants from E. coli in which expression was repressed, or from E. coli expressing flaA in the reverse orientation, contained little TLR5 activity in CHO cells expressing an NF-κB luciferase reporter and TLR5 (FIG. 5a) 5 or TLR2 (FIG. 5b). CHO cells expressing an NF-κB luciferase reporter and TLR5 (c) or TLR2 (d) were stimulated for 5 hours with culture supernatants (100  $\mu$ l/ml) from S. typhimurium lacking one copy of flagellin (FliB- fliC+) or both copies of flagellin (FliB+ FliC+). Control is stimulation with LB medium. The mean and standard deviation of quadruplicate samples are indicated.

CHO cells were transfected with TLR2 and TLR5 expression plasmids as described above with the addition of 0.1 μg of pNeo/Tak, and stable populations of cells expressing the indicated TLR with the luciferase reporters were selected in 100 μg/ml G418. These cells were plated on 96-well plates at 100,000 cells/well, incubated overnight, and processed in luciferase assays as described above.

L. monocytogenes flagellin is not recognized by TLR2, since supernatants from E. coli expressing flaA did not show enhanced TLR2-dependent stimulation of CHO cells relative to supernatants from E. coli with repressed flaA expression (FIG. 5b). In addition to the experiments that demonstrate 25 reconstitution of TLR5-stimulating activity by the expression of flagellin, a bacterium from which flagellin had been deleted was tested. It was observed that TLR5-stimulating activity was abrogated in the flagellin deleted strain. S. typhimurium possess two genes for flagellin, fliB and fliC (Fujita, 30 J., J. Gen Microbiol. 76, 127-34 (1973)). Culture supernatants of fliB- fliC+ S. typhimurium contained TLR5-stimulating activity, while culture supernatants from S. typhimurium lacking both flagellins (fliB- fliC-) expressed no TLR5stimulating activity (FIG. 5c). The lack of both flagellin genes 35 had no effect on TLR2-stimulating activity (FIG. 5d). The observed TLR2-stimulating activity found in S. typhimurium supernatants most likely was due to bacterial lipoproteins (Underhill, et al. Nature 401, 811-5 (1999); Brightbill et al., Science 285, 732-6 (1999)). These results indicate that flagel- 40 lin is the sole TLR5-stimulating activity present in S. typhimurium culture supernatant.

Thus, TLR5-stimulating activity was elicited by introducing the flagellin gene into a non-flagellated bacterium, and abrogated by deleting the flagellin genes from a flagellated bacterium.

### EXAMPLE VI

Flagellin-Induced System IL-6 Production in Mice

This example shows that TLR signaling is required for the in vivo immune response to flagellin.

To determine if TLR signaling is required for the in vivo immune response to flagellin, wild type mice and mice lacking a component of the TLR5 signal transduction pathway, MyD88, were injected with flagellin and systemic IL-6 production was monitored. MyD88 is an adaptor protein required for TLR5-mediated signal transduction (Aderem A. and Ulevitch, R. J., *Nature* 406:782-787, (2000); Brightbill, H. D. and Modlin. R. L., Immunology 101:1-10, (2000))

MyD88<sup>-/-</sup> mice (129/SvJ×C57B1/6 background) were 20 backcrossed for three generations with C57B1/6 mice (Adachi, O. et al. *Immunity*, 9:143-150 (1998)). Mice from the F<sub>3</sub> generation (MyD88<sup>-/-</sup>, n=5) and littermate controls (MyD88<sup>+/+</sup>, n=5) were injected i.p. with 30 μg purified flagellin in 0.5 cc of saline. Blood was sampled at 0, 1, 2, 4 and 8 hours after injection, and IL-6 levels were determined by ELISA (Duoset, R&D Systems, Minneapolis, Minn.).

FIG. 6 shows that flagellin induced systemic IL-6 within 2 h in wile type mice. By contrast, mice deficient in MyD88 were completely unresponsive to flagellin.

Therefore, flagellin stimulates TLR5-mediated responses in vivo.

Throughout this application various publications have been referenced. The disclosures of these publications in their entireties are hereby incorporated by reference in this application in order to more fully describe the state of the art to which this invention pertains.

Although the invention has been described with reference to the disclosed embodiments, those skilled in the art will readily appreciate that the specific experiments detailed are only illustrative of the invention. It should be understood that various modifications can be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

36

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Glu Ile Val Asp Val Ser Gly Asm Gly Trp Thr Val Asp Ile Thr Gly 230  aac ttt agc aat gcc atc agc aaa agc cag gcc ttc tct ttg att ctt Asm Phe Ser Asm Ala Ile Ser Lys Ser Gln Ala Phe Ser Leu Ile Leu 245  250  gcc cac cac atc atg ggt gcc ggg ttt ggc ttc cat aac atc aaa gat Ala Nie Nie Ile Mer Gly Ala Gly Phe Gly Phe Nie Asm Ile Lys Asp 255  gcc gac cag aac aca ttt gct ggc ctg gcc aga agt tca gtg aga cac Pro Asp Gln Asm Thr Phe Ala Gly Leu Ala Arg Ser Ser Val Arg His 280  285  ctg gac ctt tca cat ggg ttt gtc ttc tcc ctg aac cac acga gtc ttt Leu Asp Leu Ser His Gly Phe Val Phe Ser Leu Asm Ser Arg Val Phe 295  300  gag aca ctc aaa gast ttg aag gtt ctg aac ctt gcc tac aac aag ata Glu Thr Leu Lys Asp Leu Lys Val Leu Asm Leu Ala Try Asm Lys Ile 310  310  321  322  323  324  325  326  327  327  328  329  329  329  329  329  320  328  329  329  320  328  329  329  320  328  329  329  320  320  321  320  321  320  322  323  324  325  326  327  327  328  329  329  329  320  320  321  320  321  320  321  320  321  320  322  323  320  320
Amn Phe Ser Aem Âla Ile Ser Lys Ser Glm Âla Phe Ser Leu Ile Leu 245 260 255 255 255 265 265 265 265 265 265 265
Ala His His His Hie Met Gly Ala Gly Phe Gly Phe His Asn Ile Lys Asp 276  cct gac cag ac ac act tt get ggc ctg gcc aga agt tca gtg aga cac 280  Caso 2280  ctg gac ctt tca cat ggg ttt gtc ttc tcc ctg aac tca cga gtc ttt Leu Asp Leu Ser His Gly Phe Val Phe Ser Leu Asn Ser Arg Val Phe 295  ctg gac ctt tca cat ggg ttt gtc ttc tcc ctg aac tca cga gtc ttt Leu Asp Leu Ser His Gly Phe Val Phe Ser Leu Asn Ser Arg Val Phe 295  gag aca ctc aag gat ttg aag gtt ctg acc ctt gcc tac aac aag ata 61675  glu Thr Leu Lys Asp Leu Lys Val Leu Asn Leu Ala Tyr Asn Lys Ile 310  aat aag att gca gat gaa gca ttt tac gga ctt gac aac ctc caa gtt Asn Lys Ile Ala Asp Glu Ala Phe Tyr Gly Leu Asp Asn Leu Gln Val 3250  ctc aat ttg tca tat aac ctt ctg ggg gaa ctt tgc agt tcg aat ttc Leu Asn Leu Ser Tyr Asn Leu Leu Gly Glu Leu Cys Ser Ser Asn Phe 345  tat gga cta cct aag gta gcc tac att gat ttg caa aag att cac att grad tac gac cac acc att gat tac gas cac acc att gat tac gas cac att gat tac gas acc att gas acc acc acc att gat tac gas acc acc acc acc acc acc acc acc acc a
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Leu Asp Leu Ser His Gly Phe Val Phe Ser Leu Asn Ser Arg Val Phe 295 and 300 acc ctc aag gat ttg aag gtt ctg aac ctt gcc tac aac aag ata ag att gca gat gta gtc ty val Leu Asn Leu Ala Tyr Asn Lys Ile 310 along a gat ttg aag gta ttt tac gga ctt gac aac ctc caa gtt 310 along a gat gca ttt tac gga ctt gac aac ctc caa gtt 310 along a gat gca ttt tac gga ctt gac aac ctc caa gtt 310 along a gat gca tac acc ctc caa gtt 310 along a gat gca tac acc ctc caa gtt 310 along a gat gat gat gca tac acc ctc caa gtt 310 along a gat gat gat gat gat gat gat gat gat
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Ann Lys Ile Ala Asp Glu Ala Phe Tyr Gly Leu Asp Asn Leu Gln Val 335  ctc aat ttg toa tat aac ctt ctg ggg gaa ctt tgc aat ttc Leu Asn Leu Ser Tyr Asn Leu Leu Gly 350  tat gga cta cct aag gta gcc tac att Tyr Gly Leu Pro Lys Val Ala Tyr Ile Asp Leu Gln Lys Asn His Ile 360  gca ata att caa gac caa aca ttc aaa ttc ctg gaa aaa tta cag acc Ala Ile Ile Gln Asp Gln Thr Phe Lys Phe Leu Glu Lys Leu Gln Thr 375  ttg gat ctc cga gac aat gct ctt aca acc att cat ttt att cca agc Leu Asp Leu Arg Asp Asn Ala Leu Thr Thr Ile His Phe Ile Pro Ser 390  ata ccc gat atc ttc ttg agt ggc aat aaa cta gtg act ttg cca aag Ile Pro Asp Ile Phe Leu Ser Gly Asn Lys Leu Val Thr Leu Pro Lys 405  atc aac ctt aca gcg aac ctc acc cat tta ca cac gg acc acc acc att cac acc ctt aca acc gg acc acc acc acc acc acc acc
Leu Asn Leu Ser Tyr Asn Leu Leu Gly Glu Leu Cys Ser Ser Asn Phe 345  tat gga cta cct aag gta gcc tac att gat ttg caa aag aat cac att 1819  Tyr Gly Leu Pro Lys Val Ala Tyr 1le Asp Leu Gln Lys Asn His 1le 360  gca ata att caa gac caa aca ttc aaa ttc ctg gaa aaa tta cag acc Ala 1867  Ala 1le 1le Gln Asp Gln Thr Phe Lys Phe Leu Glu Lys Leu Gln Thr 375  ttg gat ctc cga gac aat gct ctt aca acc att cat ttt att cca agc Leu Asp Leu Arg Asp Asn Ala Leu Thr Thr 1le His Phe Ile Pro Ser 390  ata ccc gat atc ttc ttg agt ggc aat aaa cta gtg act ttg cca aag 1963  Ile Pro Asp Ile Phe Leu Ser Gly Asn Lys Leu Val Thr Leu Pro Lys 415  atc aac ctt aca gcg aac ctc atc cac tta tca gaa aca agg cta gaa 1963  atc aac ctt aca gcg aac ctc atc cac tta tca gaa aca agg cta gaa 11e Asn Leu Thr Ala Asn Leu Ile His Leu Ser Glu Asn Arg Leu Glu Aso 430  aat cta gat att ctc tac ttt ctc cta cgg gta cct cat ctc cag at 2011  aat cta gat att ctc tac ttt ctc cta cgg gta cct cat ctc cag at 2059  Asn Leu Asp Ile Leu Tyr Phe Leu Leu Arg Val Pro His Leu Gln Ile 440  ctc att tta aat caa aat cgc ttc tcc tcc tgt agt gga gat caa acc 2107  Leu Ile Leu Asn Gln Asn Arg Phe Ser Ser Cys Ser Gly Asp Gln Thr
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	caa Gln															2203
	tct Ser															2251
	cca Pro															2299
	aac Asn															2347
	tta Leu 550															2395
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	gac Asp	_				_							_	_		2587
	gat Asp															2635
	630					635	<i>L</i> <sub>1</sub> <i>U</i>		БСС	цуБ	640	501			116	
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Glu Arg Leu Leu Sen 50	r Phe Asn Tyr Ile Arg Thr Val Thr Ala Ser 55 60
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Tyr Thr Pro Leu Thr Ile 85	e Asp Lys Glu Ala Phe Arg Asn Leu Pro Asn 90 95
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Asp Ala Phe Gln Gly Let 115	ı Phe His Leu Phe Glu Leu Arg Leu Tyr Phe 120 125
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Tyr Leu His Pro Ser Pho	e Gly Lys Leu Asn Ser Leu Lys Ser Ile Asp 170 175
Phe Ser Ser Asn Gln Ile 180	e Phe Leu Val Cys Glu His Glu Leu Glu Pro 185 190
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Asn Met Val Leu Glu Ile Val Asp Val Ser Gly Asn Gly Trp Thr Val

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Ser	Leu	Ile	Leu 260	Ala	His	His	Ile	Met 265	Gly	Ala	Gly	Phe	Gly 270	Phe	His
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Ser	Val 290	Arg	His	Leu	Asp	Leu 295	Ser	His	Gly	Phe	Val 300	Phe	Ser	Leu	Asn
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Tyr	Asn	Lys	Ile	Asn 325	Lys	Ile	Ala	Asp	Glu 330	Ala	Phe	Tyr	Gly	Leu 335	Asp
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Ser	Ser	Asn 355	Phe	Tyr	Gly	Leu	Pro 360	Lys	Val	Ala	Tyr	Ile 365	Asp	Leu	Gln
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Lys	Ile	Val 755	Cys	Leu	Val	Ser	Arg 760	His	Phe	Leu	Arg	Asp 765	Gly	Trp	CAa	
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'n '	_			_				_	ttc Phe					_	_	1200
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Ala 145	Ser	Phe	Gln	Ile	Gly 150	Ser	Ser	Ser	Gly	Glu 155	Ala	Ile	Ile	Met	Gly 160
Leu	Thr	Ser	Val	Arg 165	Ala	Asp	Asp	Phe	Arg 170	Met	Gly	Gly	Gln	Ser 175	Phe
Ile	Ala	Glu	Gln 180	Pro	Lys	Thr	Lys	Glu 185	Trp	Gly	Val	Pro	Pro 190	Thr	Ala
Arg	Asp	Leu 195	ГÀз	Phe	Glu	Phe	Thr 200	ГÀЗ	Lys	Asp	Gly	Glu 205	Ala	Val	Val
Leu	Asp 210	Ile	Ile	Ala	Lys	Asp 215	Gly	Asp	Asp	Ile	Glu 220	Glu	Leu	Ala	Thr
Tyr 225	Ile	Asn	Gly	Gln	Thr 230	Asp	Leu	Phe	Lys	Ala 235	Ser	Val	Asp	Gln	Glu 240
Gly	Lys	Leu	Gln	Ile 245	Phe	Val	Ala	Glu	Pro 250	Asn	Ile	Glu	Gly	Asn 255	Phe
Asn	Ile	Ser	Gly 260	Gly	Leu	Ala	Thr	Glu 265	Leu	Gly	Leu	Asn	Gly 270	Gly	Pro
Gly	Val	Lys 275	Thr	Thr	Val	Gln	Asp 280	Ile	Asp	Ile	Thr	Ser 285	Val	Gly	Gly
Ser	Gln 290	Asn	Ala	Val	Gly	Ile 295	Ile	Asp	Ala	Ala	Leu 300	Lys	Tyr	Val	Asp
Ser 305	Gln	Arg	Ala	Asp	Leu 310	Gly	Ala	ГЛа	Gln	Asn 315	Arg	Leu	Ser	His	Ser 320
Ile	Ser	Asn	Leu	Ser 325	Asn	Ile	Gln	Glu	Asn 330	Val	Glu	Ala	Ser	335 Lys	Ser
Arg	Ile	Lys	Asp 340	Thr	Asp	Phe	Ala	Lys 345	Glu	Thr	Thr	Gln	Leu 350	Thr	Lys
Ser	Gln	Ile 355	Leu	Gln	Gln	Ala	Gly 360	Thr	Ser	Ile	Leu	Ala 365	Gln	Ala	Lys
Gln	Leu 370	Pro	Asn	Ser	Ala	Ile 375	Ser	Leu	Leu	Gln					

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Asn	Leu	Asn	Asn 20	Ser	Ser	Ala	Ser	Leu 25	Asn	Thr	Ser	Leu	Gln 30	Arg	Leu
Ser	Thr	Gly 35	Ser	Arg	Ile	Asn	Ser 40	Ala	Lys	Asp	Asp	Ala 45	Ala	Gly	Leu
Gln	Ile 50	Ala	Asn	Arg	Leu	Thr 55	Ser	Gln	Val	Asn	Gly 60	Leu	Asn	Val	Ala
Thr 65	Lys	Asn	Ala	Asn	Asp 70	Gly	Ile	Ser	Leu	Ala 75	Gln	Thr	Ala	Glu	Gly 80
Ala	Leu	Gln	Gln	Ser 85	Thr	Asn	Ile	Leu	Gln 90	Arg	Met	Arg	Asp	Leu 95	Ser
Leu	Gln	Ser	Ala 100	Asn	Gly	Ser	Asn	Ser 105	Asp	Ser	Glu	Arg	Thr 110	Ala	Leu
Asn	Gly	Glu 115	Ala	Lys	Gln	Leu	Gln 120	ГÀа	Glu	Leu	Asp	Arg 125	Ile	Ser	Asn
Thr	Thr 130	Thr	Phe	Gly	Gly	Arg 135	Lys	Leu	Leu	Asp	Gly 140	Ser	Phe	Gly	Val
Ala 145	Ser	Phe	Gln	Val	Gly 150	Ser	Ala	Ala	Asn	Glu 155	Ile	Ile	Ser	Val	Gly 160
Ile	Asp	Glu	Met	Ser 165	Ala	Glu	Ser	Leu	Asn 170	Gly	Thr	Tyr	Phe	Lys 175	Ala
Asp	Gly	Gly	Gly 180	Ala	Val	Thr	Ala	Ala 185	Thr	Ala	Ser	Gly	Thr 190	Val	Asp
Ile	Ala	Ile 195	Gly	Ile	Thr	Gly	Gly 200	Ser	Ala	Val	Asn	Val 205	Lys	Val	Asp
Met	Lys 210	Gly	Asn	Glu	Thr	Ala 215	Glu	Gln	Ala	Ala	Ala 220	Lys	Ile	Ala	Ala
Ala 225	Val	Asn	Asp	Ala	Asn 230	Val	Gly	Ile	Gly	Ala 235	Phe	Ser	Asp	Gly	Asp 240
Thr	Ile	Ser	Tyr	Val 245	Ser	Lys	Ala	Gly	Lуз 250	Asp	Gly	Ser	Gly	Ala 255	Ile
Thr	Ser	Ala	Val 260	Ser	Gly	Val	Val	Ile 265	Ala	Asp	Thr	Gly	Ser 270	Thr	Gly
Val	Gly	Thr 275	Ala	Ala	Gly	Val	Ala 280	Pro	Ser	Ala	Thr	Ala 285	Phe	Ala	Lys
Thr	Asn 290	Asp	Thr	Val	Ala	Lys 295	Ile	Asp	Ile	Ser	Thr 300	Ala	Lys	Ala	Leu
Ser 305	Arg	Arg	Ala	Gly	310	Arg	Thr	Thr	Ala	Ile 315	Lys	Gln	Ile	Asp	Ala 320
Ser	Val	Pro	Thr	Ser 325	Val	Ala	Val	Gln	Asn 330	Arg	Phe	Asp	Asn	Thr 335	Ile
Asn	Asn	Leu	Lys 340	Asn	Ile	Gly	Glu	Asn 345	Val	Ser	Ala	Ala	Arg 350	Gly	Arg
Ile	Glu	Asp 355	Thr	Asp	Phe	Ala	Ala 360	Glu	Thr	Ala	Asn	Leu 365	Thr	Lys	Asn
Gln	Val 370	Leu	Gln	Gln	Ala	Gly 375	Thr	Ala	Ile	Leu	Ala 380	Gln	Ala	Asn	Gln

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Met Val Ile Gln Val Gly Thr Asn Asp Asn Glu Thr Ile Lys Phe Asn 145 150 150

Leu	Asp	ГХа	Val	Asp 165	Asn	Asp	Thr	Leu	Gly 170	Val	Ala	Ser	Aap	Lys 175	Leu
Phe	Asp	Thr	180	Thr	Glu	Lys	Lys	Gly 185	Val	Thr	Ala	Ala	Gly 190	Ala	Gly
Val	Thr	Asp 195	Ala	Lys	Lys	Ile	Asn 200	Ala	Ala	Ala	Thr	Leu 205	Asp	Met	Met
Val	Ser 210	Leu	Val	Lys	Glu	Phe 215	Asn	Leu	Asp	Gly	220	Pro	Val	Thr	Asp
Lys 225	Phe	Ile	Val	Thr	Lys 230	Gly	Gly	ГЛа	Asp	Tyr 235	Val	Ala	Thr	Tàa	Ser 240
Asp	Phe	Glu	Leu	Asp 245	Ala	Thr	Gly	Thr	Lys 250	Leu	Gly	Leu	Lys	Ala 255	Ser
Ala	Thr	Thr	Glu 260	Phe	Lys	Val	Asp	Ala 265	Gly	Lys	Asp	Val	Lys 270	Thr	Leu
Asn	Val	Lys 275	Asp	Asp	Ala	Leu	Ala 280	Thr	Leu	Asp	Lys	Ala 285	Ile	Asn	Thr
Ile	Asp 290	Glu	Ser	Arg	Ser	Lys 295	Leu	Gly	Ala	Ile	Gln 300	Asn	Arg	Phe	Glu
Ser 305	Thr	Ile	Asn	Asn	Leu 310	Asn	Asn	Thr	Val	Asn 315	Asn	Leu	Ser	Ala	Ser 320
Arg	Ser	Arg	Ile	Leu 325	Asp	Ala	Asp	Tyr	Ala 330	Thr	Glu	Val	Ser	Asn 335	Met
Ser	Arg	Gly	Gln 340	Ile	Leu	Gln	Gln	Ala 345	Gly	Thr	Ser	Val	Leu 350	Ala	Gln
				D	C15	m1	7727	Leu	Ser	Leu	Leu	Δra			
Ala	Asn	Gln 355	Val	Pro	GIII	Thr	360					365			
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145	150		155			160
Leu Asp Lys Ile	Asp Asn A	Asp Thr Le	u Gly Val 170	Ala Ser	Asp Lys 175	Leu
Phe Asp Ala Lys 180	Thr Glu I	Lys Lys Gl 18		Ala Ala	Gly Asp 190	Ala
Ile Asp Ala Asn 195	Ala Leu (	Gly Ile Se 200	r Gly Ser	Lys Lys 205		Thr
Gly Ile Ser Val 210		Tyr Lys Va 215	l Asp Gly	Lys Val 220	Ser Ser	Asp
Lys Val Val Leu 225	Asn Asp (	Gly Ser As	p Asp Tyr 235	Ile Val	Ser Lys	Ser 240
Asp Phe Thr Leu	Lys Ser (	Gly Thr Th	r Thr Gly 250	Glu Val	Glu Phe 255	Thr
Gly Ser Lys Thr 260	Thr Lys I	Phe Thr Al 26		Gly Lys	Asp Val 270	Lys
Val Leu Asn Val 275	Lys Asp A	Asp Ala Le 280	u Ala Thr	Leu Asp 285		Ile
Ser Lys Val Asp 290		Arg Ser Ly 295	s Leu Gly	Ala Ile 300	Gln Asn	Arg
Phe Gln Ser Thr 305	Ile Asn A	Asn Leu As	n Asn Thr 315	Val Asn	Asn Leu	Ser 320
Ala Ser Arg Ser	Arg Ile I 325	Leu Asp Al	a Asp Tyr 330	Ala Thr	Glu Val 335	Ser
Asn Met Ser Lys 340	Asn Gln	Ile Leu Gl 34		Gly Thr	Ala Val 350	Leu
Ala Gln Ala Asn	Gln Val I	Pro Gln Th	r Val Leu	Ser Leu	Leu Arg	
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<210> SEQ ID NO <211> LENGTH: 5 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: <400> SEQUENCE:  Met Ala Gln Val 1  Asn Leu Asn Lys	S. typhir  18  Ile Asn :  5  Ser Gln S	murium2 Thr Asn Se Ser Ala Le 25	10 u Gly Thr	Leu Leu Ala Ile	15 Glu Arg 30	Leu
<pre>&lt;210&gt; SEQ ID NO &lt;211&gt; LENGTH: 5 &lt;212&gt; TYPE: PRT &lt;213&gt; ORGANISM: &lt;400&gt; SEQUENCE: Met Ala Gln Val 1 Asn Leu Asn Lys 20 Ser Ser Gly Leu</pre>	S. typhir  18  Ile Asn 5  Ser Gln 8  Arg Ile A	murium2 Thr Asn Se Ser Ala Le 25 Asn Ser Al 40	10 u Gly Thr a Lys Asp	Leu Leu Ala Ile Asp Ala 45	Glu Arg 30 Ala Gly	Leu Gln
<pre>&lt;210&gt; SEQ ID NO &lt;211&gt; LENGTH: 5 &lt;212&gt; TYPE: PRT &lt;213&gt; ORGANISM: &lt;400&gt; SEQUENCE: Met Ala Gln Val 1 Asn Leu Asn Lys</pre>	S. typhir  18  Ile Asn :  5  Ser Gln s  Arg Ile A	murium2 Thr Asn Se Ser Ala Le 25 Asn Ser Al 40 Thr Ala As	10 u Gly Thr a Lys Asp n Ile Lys	Leu Leu Ala Ile Asp Ala 45 Gly Leu 60	Glu Arg 30 Ala Gly Thr Gln	Leu Gln Ala
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<pre>&lt;210&gt; SEQ ID NO &lt;211&gt; LENGTH: 5 &lt;212&gt; TYPE: PRT &lt;213&gt; ORGANISM: &lt;400&gt; SEQUENCE:  Met Ala Gln Val 1  Asn Leu Asn Lys 20  Ser Ser Gly Leu 35  Ala Ile Ala Asn 50  Ser Arg Asn Ala 65</pre>	S. typhir  18  Ile Asn : 5  Ser Gln S  Arg Ile A  Arg Phe : 5  Asn Asp (70)  Ile Asn A  85	murium2  Thr Asn Se  Ser Ala Le 25  Asn Ser Al 40  Thr Ala As 55  Gly Ile Se  Asn Asn Le	u Gly Thr Lys Asp Ile Lys Ile Ala 75 U Gln Arg 90 r Gln Ser	Leu Leu Ala Ile Asp Ala 45 Gly Leu 60 Gln Thr	Glu Arg 30  Ala Gly Thr Gln Thr Glu Glu Leu 95	Leu Gln Ala Gly 80 Ala
<pre>&lt;210&gt; SEQ ID NO &lt;211&gt; LENGTH: 5 &lt;212&gt; TYPE: PRT &lt;213&gt; ORGANISM: &lt;400&gt; SEQUENCE: Met Ala Gln Val 1 Asn Leu Asn Lys 20 Ser Ser Gly Leu 35 Ala Ile Ala Asn 50 Ser Arg Asn Ala 65 Ala Leu Asn Glu Val Gln Ser Ala</pre>	S. typhir  18  Ile Asn 5  Ser Gln 8  Arg Ile A  Arg Phe 5  Asn Asp 0  Ile Asn A  85  Asn Ser 5	murium2  Thr Asn Se  Ser Ala Le 25  Asn Ser Al 40  Thr Ala As 55  Gly Ile Se  Asn Asn Le  Thr Asn Se 10	u Gly Thr a Lys Asp n Ile Lys r Ile Ala 75 u Gln Arg 90 r Gln Ser	Leu Leu Ala Ile Asp Ala 45 Gly Leu 60 Gln Thr Val Arg Asp Leu	Glu Arg 30 Ala Gly Thr Glu Thr Glu Glu Leu 95 Asp Ser 110	Leu Gln Ala Gly 80 Ala Ile
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Lys Gln Ile Asn Ser Gln Thr Leu Gly Leu Asp Ser Leu Asn Val Gln 170 Lys Ala Tyr Asp Val Lys Asp Thr Ala Val Thr Thr Lys Ala Tyr Ala Asn Asn Gly Thr Thr Leu Asp Val Ser Gly Leu Asp Asp Ala Ala Ile 200 Lys Ala Ala Thr Gly Gly Thr Asn Gly Thr Ala Ser Val Thr Gly Gly Ala Val Lys Phe Asp Ala Asp Asn Asn Lys Tyr Phe Val Thr Ile Gly Gly Phe Thr Gly Ala Asp Ala Ala Lys Asn Gly Asp Tyr Glu Val Asn Val Ala Thr Asp Gly Thr Val Thr Leu Ala Ala Gly Ala Thr Lys Thr Thr Met Pro Ala Gly Ala Thr Thr Lys Thr Glu Val Gln Glu Leu Lys Asp Thr Pro Ala Val Val Ser Ala Asp Ala Lys Asn Ala Leu Ile Ala Gly Gly Val Asp Ala Thr Asp Ala Asn Gly Ala Glu Leu Val Lys Met Ser Tyr Thr Asp Lys Asn Gly Lys Thr Ile Glu Gly Gly Tyr Ala Leu 330 Lys Ala Gly Asp Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Ala Asp Tyr Asp Glu Ala Thr Gly 345 Ala Ile Lys Ala Lys Thr Thr Ser Tyr Thr Ala Ala Asp Gly Thr Thr Lys Thr Ala Ala Asn Gln Leu Gly Gly Val Asp Gly Lys Thr Glu Val Val Thr Ile Asp Gly Lys Thr Tyr Asn Ala Ser Lys Ala Ala Gly His Asp Phe Lys Ala Gln Pro Glu Leu Ala Glu Ala Ala Ala Lys Thr Thr Glu Asn Pro Leu Gln Lys Ile Asp Ala Ala Leu Ala Gln Val Asp Ala Leu Arg Ser Asp Leu Gly Ala Val Gln Asn Arg Phe Asn Ser Ala Ile 440 Thr Asn Leu Gly Asn Thr Val Asn Asn Leu Ser Glu Ala Arg Ser Arg Ile Glu Asp Ser Asp Tyr Ala Thr Glu Val Ser Asn Met Ser Arg Ala Gln Ile Leu Gln Gln Ala Gly Thr Ser Val Leu Ala Gln Ala Asn Gln Val Pro Gln Asn Val Leu Ser Leu Leu Arg <210> SEQ ID NO 19 <211> LENGTH: 490 <212> TYPE: PRT <213 > ORGANISM: S. typhimurium1 <400> SEQUENCE: 19 Met Ala Gln Val Ile Asn Thr Asn Ser Leu Ser Leu Leu Thr Gln Asn 10

Asn Leu Asn Lys Ser Gln Ser Ala Leu Gly Thr Ala Ile Glu Arg Leu  $20 \\ \hspace{1.5cm} 25 \\ \hspace{1.5cm} 30 \\ \hspace{1.5cm}$ 

Ser	Ser	Gly 35	Leu	Arg	Ile	Asn	Ser 40	Ala	Lys	Asp	Asp	Ala 45	Ala	Gly	Gln
Ala	Ile 50	Ala	Asn	Arg	Phe	Thr 55	Ala	Asn	Ile	Lys	Gly 60	Leu	Thr	Gln	Ala
Ser 65	Arg	Asn	Ala	Asn	Asp 70	Gly	Ile	Ser	Ile	Ala 75	Gln	Thr	Thr	Glu	Gly 80
Ala	Leu	Asn	Glu	Ile 85	Asn	Asn	Asn	Leu	Gln 90	Arg	Val	Arg	Glu	Leu 95	Ala
Val	Gln	Ser	Ala 100	Asn	Ser	Thr	Asn	Ser 105	Gln	Ser	Asp	Leu	Asp 110	Ser	Ile
Gln	Ala	Glu 115	Ile	Thr	Gln	Arg	Leu 120	Asn	Glu	Ile	Asp	Arg 125	Val	Asn	Gly
Gln	Thr 130	Gln	Phe	Ser	Gly	Val 135	Lys	Val	Leu	Ala	Gln 140	Asp	Asn	Thr	Leu
Thr 145	Ile	Gln	Val	Gly	Ala 150	Asn	Asp	Gly	Glu	Thr 155	Ile	Asp	Ile	Asp	Leu 160
Lys	Gln	Ile	Asn	Ser 165	Gln	Thr	Leu	Gly	Leu 170	Asp	Thr	Leu	Asn	Val 175	Gln
Gln	Lys	Tyr	Lys 180	Val	Ser	Asp	Thr	Ala 185	Ala	Thr	Val	Thr	Gly 190	Tyr	Ala
Asp	Thr	Thr 195	Ile	Ala	Leu	Asp	Asn 200	Ser	Thr	Phe	Lys	Ala 205	Ser	Ala	Thr
Gly	Leu 210	Gly	Gly	Thr	Asp	Glu 215	Lys	Ile	Asp	Gly	Asp 220	Leu	Lys	Phe	Asp
Asp 225	Thr	Thr	Gly	Lys	Tyr 230	Tyr	Ala	Lys	Val	Thr 235	Val	Thr	Gly	Gly	Thr 240
Gly	Lys	Asp	Gly	Tyr 245	Tyr	Glu	Val	Ser	Val 250	Asp	Lys	Thr	Asn	Gly 255	Glu
Val	Thr	Leu	Ala 260	Ala	Val	Thr	Pro	Ala 265	Thr	Val	Thr	Thr	Ala 270	Thr	Ala
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Ala	Ala 290	Leu	Thr	Ala	Ala	Gly 295	Val	Thr	Gly	Thr	Ala 300	Ser	Val	Val	Lys
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Ala Lys Le	u Ser As 340	o Leu 1	Met Al	a Asn 345	Asn	Ala	Asn	Ala	Lys 350	Thr	Val
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1 Lys		Ile Asn	Asn Glu 20	His 5 Leu	Ala	Val	Asp	Lув 25	10 Thr	Met	Lys	Ala	Leu 30	15 Ser	Ser
Lys Gly	Phe	Ile Asn Arg 35	Asn Glu 20 Ile	His 5 Leu Asn	Ala Ser	Val Ala	Asp Ala 40	Lya 25 Aap	10 Thr Asp	Met Ala	Lys Ser	Ala Gly 45	Leu 30 Leu	15 Ser Ala	Ser Val
1 Lys Gly Ser	Phe Met Glu	Ile Asn Arg 35 Lys	Asn Glu 20 Ile Leu	His 5 Leu Asn Arg	Ala Ser Thr	Val Ala Gln 55	Asp Ala 40 Val	Lys 25 Asp Asn	10 Thr Asp Gly	Met Ala Leu	Lys Ser Arg	Ala Gly 45 Gln	Leu 30 Leu Ala	15 Ser Ala Glu	Ser Val Arg
1 Lys Gly Ser Asn 65	Phe Met Glu 50	Ile Asn Arg 35 Lys Glu	Asn Glu 20 Ile Leu Asp	His 5 Leu Asn Arg	Ala Ser Thr Met 70	Val Ala Gln 55 Ser	Asp Ala 40 Val	Lys 25 Asp Asn	Thr Asp Gly	Met Ala Leu Thr 75	Lys Ser Arg 60 Ala	Ala Gly 45 Gln Glu	Leu 30 Leu Ala Gly	15 Ser Ala Glu Phe	Ser Val Arg Leu 80
1 Lys Gly Ser Asn 65 Glu	Phe Met Glu 50 Thr	Ile Asn Arg 35 Lys Glu Thr	Asn Glu 20 Ile Leu Asp	His 5 Leu Asn Arg Gly Asn 85	Ala Ser Thr Met 70	Val Ala Gln 55 Ser	Asp Ala 40 Val Phe	Lys 25 Asp Asn Ile	Thr Asp Gly Gln Ile	Met Ala Leu Thr 75 Arg	Lys Ser Arg 60 Ala Val	Ala Gly 45 Gln Glu Leu	Leu 30 Leu Ala Gly	Ser Ala Glu Phe Ile 95	Ser Val Arg Leu 80 Gln
1 Lys Gly Ser Asn 65 Glu	Phe Met Glu 50 Thr	Ile Asn Arg 35 Lys Glu Thr	Asn Glu 20 Ile Leu Asp Ser Gly 100	His 5 Leu Asn Arg Gly Asn 85 Ile	Ala Ser Thr Met 70 Ile	Val Ala Gln 55 Ser Ile Ser	Asp Ala 40 Val Phe Gln Asn	Lys 25 Asp Asn Ile Arg Glu 105	Thr Asp Gly Gln Ile 90 Asp	Met Ala Leu Thr 75 Arg	Lys Ser Arg 60 Ala Val	Ala Gly 45 Gln Glu Leu	Leu 30 Leu Ala Gly Ala Val	Ser Ala Glu Phe Ile 95 Gln	Ser Val Arg Leu 80 Gln Val
1 Lys Gly Ser Asn 65 Glu Thr	Phe Met Glu 50 Thr Gln Ser	Ile Asn Arg 35 Lys Glu Thr Asn Ser 115	Asn Glu 20 Ile Leu Asp Ser Gly 100 Ala	His 5 Leu Asn Arg Gly Asn 85 Ile	Ala Ser Thr Met 70 Ile Tyr	Val Ala Gln 55 Ser Ile Ser Asp	Asp Ala 40 Val Phe Gln Asn Glu 120	Lys 25 Asp Asn Ile Arg Glu 105 Val	Thr Asp Gly Gln Ile 90 Asp	Met Ala Leu Thr 75 Arg Arg	Lys Ser Arg 60 Ala Val Gln Ile	Ala Gly 45 Gln Glu Leu Leu Ala 125	Leu 30 Leu Ala Gly Ala Val 110 Ser	Ser Ala Glu Phe Ile 95 Gln Gln	Ser Val Arg Leu 80 Gln Val
1 Lys Gly Ser Asn 65 Glu Thr	Phe Met Glu 50 Thr Gln Ser Val	Asn Arg 35 Lys Glu Thr Asn Ser 115 Asn	Asn Glu 20 Ile Leu Asp Ser Gly 100 Ala	His 5 Leu Asn Arg Gly Asn S5 Ile Leu Phe	Ala Ser Thr Met 70 Ile Tyr Val	Val Ala Gln 55 Ser Ile Ser Asp Leu 135	Asp Ala 40 Val Phe Gln Asn Glu 120	Lys 25 Asp Asn Ile Arg Glu 105 Val	10 Thr Asp Gly Gln Ile 90 Asp Gly	Met Ala Leu Thr 75 Arg Arg Gln	Lys Ser Arg 60 Ala Val Gln Ile Phe 140	Ala Gly 45 Gln Glu Leu Leu Ala 125 Ala	Leu 30 Leu Ala Gly Ala Val 110 Ser Arg	15 Ser Ala Glu Phe Ile 95 Gln Gln	Ser Val Arg Leu 80 Gln Val Ala

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Lys Ala Asp Gly Arg Pro Ile Ala Ile Ser Ser Pro Gly Glu Ala Asn 180 185 Asp Val Ile Gly Leu Ala Asp Ala Ala Leu Thr Lys Ile Met Lys Gln Arg Ala Asp Met Gly Ala Tyr Tyr Asn Arg Leu Glu Tyr Thr Ala Lys Gly Leu Met Gly Ala Tyr Glu Asn Met Gln Ala Ser Glu Ser Arg Ile Arg Asp Ala Asp Met Ala Glu Glu Val Val Ser Leu Thr Thr Lys Gln Ile Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Thr Ala Met Leu Ala Arg Ala Asn Met Lys Pro Asn Ser Val Leu Lys Leu Leu Gln His Ile <210> SEQ ID NO 26 <211> LENGTH: 336 <212> TYPE: PRT <213 > ORGANISM: B. burgdorferei <400> SEQUENCE: 26 Met Ile Ile Asn His Asn Thr Ser Ala Ile Asn Ala Ser Arg Asn Asn Gly Ile Asn Ala Ala Asn Leu Ser Lys Thr Gln Glu Lys Leu Ser Ser Gly Tyr Arg Ile Asn Arg Ala Ser Asp Asp Ala Ala Gly Met Gly Val 40 Ser Gly Lys Ile Asn Ala Gln Ile Arg Gly Leu Ser Gln Ala Ser Arg Asn Thr Ser Lys Ala Ile Asn Phe Ile Gln Thr Thr Glu Gly Asn Leu 70 Asn Glu Val Glu Lys Val Leu Val Arg Met Lys Glu Leu Ala Val Gln Ser Gly Asn Gly Thr Tyr Ser Asp Ala Asp Arg Gly Ser Ile Gln Ile 105 Glu Ile Glu Gln Leu Thr Asp Glu Ile Asn Arg Ile Ala Asp Gln Ala Gln Tyr Asn Gln Met His Met Leu Ser Asn Lys Ser Ala Ser Gln Asn Val Arg Thr Ala Glu Glu Leu Gly Met Gln Pro Ala Lys Ile Asn Thr Pro Ala Ser Leu Ser Gly Ser Gln Ala Ser Trp Thr Leu Arg Val His Val Gly Ala Asn Gln Asp Glu Ala Ile Ala Val Asn Ile Tyr Ala Ala 185 Asn Val Ala Asn Leu Phe Ser Gly Glu Gly Ala Gln Ala Ala Gln Thr Ala Pro Val Gln Glu Gly Ala Gln Gln Glu Gly Ala Gln Gln Pro Ala 215 Pro Val Thr Ala Pro Ser Gln Gly Gly Val Asn Ser Pro Val Asn Val Thr Thr Thr Val Asp Ala Asn Thr Ser Leu Ala Lys Ile Glu Asn Ala 250 Ile Arg Met Ile Ser Asp Gln Arg Ala Asn Leu Gly Ala Phe Gln Asn 265

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Arg Leu Glu Ser Ile Lys Asp Ser Thr Glu Tyr Ala Ile Glu Asn Leu 280 Lys Ala Ser Tyr Ala Gln Ile Lys Asp Ala Thr Met Thr Asp Glu Val 295 Val Ala Ala Thr Thr Asn Ser Ile Leu Thr Gln Ser Ala Met Ala Met Ile Ala Gln Ala Asn Gln Val Pro Gln Tyr Val Leu Ser Leu Leu Arg <210> SEQ ID NO 27 <211> LENGTH: 304 <212> TYPE: PRT <213 > ORGANISM: B. subtilus <400> SEQUENCE: 27 Met Arg Ile Asn His Asn Ile Ala Ala Leu Asn Thr Leu Asn Arg Leu 1 5 10 15 Ser Ser Asn Asn Ser Ala Ser Gln Lys Asn Met Glu Lys Leu Ser Ser 20 25 30Gly Leu Arg Ile Asn Arg Ala Gly Asp Asp Ala Ala Gly Leu Ala Ile Ser Glu Lys Met Arg Gly Gln Ile Arg Gly Leu Glu Met Ala Ser Lys 55 Asn Ser Gln Asp Gly Ile Ser Leu Ile Gln Thr Ala Glu Gly Ala Leu 65 70 75 80 Thr Glu Thr His Ala Ile Leu Gln Arg Val Arg Glu Leu Val Val Gln Ala Gly Asn Thr Gly Thr Gln Asp Lys Ala Thr Asp Leu Gln Ser Ile 105 Gln Asp Glu Ile Ser Ala Leu Thr Asp Glu Ile Asp Gly Ile Ser Asn 120 Arg Thr Glu Phe Asn Gly Lys Lys Leu Leu Asp Gly Thr Tyr Lys Val Asp Thr Ala Thr Pro Ala Asn Gln Lys Asn Leu Val Phe Gln Ile Gly Ala Asn Ala Thr Gln Gln Ile Ser Val Asn Ile Glu Asp Met Gly Ala 170 Asp Ala Leu Gly Ile Lys Glu Ala Asp Gly Ser Ile Ala Ala Leu His Ser Val Asn Asp Leu Asp Val Thr Lys Phe Ala Asp Asn Ala Ala Asp 195 200 205 Thr Ala Asp Ile Gly Phe Asp Ala Gln Leu Lys Val Val Asp Glu Ala Ile Asn Gln Val Ser Ser Gln Arg Ala Lys Leu Gly Ala Val Gln Asn Arg Leu Glu His Thr Ile Asn Asn Leu Ser Ala Ser Gly Glu Asn Leu Thr Ala Ala Glu Ser Arg Ile Arg Asp Val Asp Met Ala Lys Glu Met 265 Ser Glu Phe Thr Lys Asn Asn Ile Leu Ser Gln Ala Ser Gln Ala Met 280 Leu Ala Gln Ala Asn Gln Gln Pro Gln Asn Val Leu Gln Leu Leu Arg 295

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Ile Ala Thr Thr Met Arg Ser Asp Asn Gln Ala Leu Ser Ala Val Gln

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												COII	CIII	uea	
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Asp 65	Ala	Leu	Gly	Leu	Gly 70	Ala	Ala	Lys	Val	Asp 75	Thr	Ala	Tyr	Ser	Gly 80
Met	Glu	Ser	Ala	Ile 85	Glu	Val	Val	Lys	Glu 90	Ile	Lys	Ala	Lys	Leu 95	Val
Ala	Ala	Thr	Glu 100	Asp	Gly	Val	Asp	Lys 105	Ala	Lys	Ile	Gln	Glu 110	Glu	Ile
Thr	Gln	Leu 115	Lys	Asp	Gln	Leu	Thr 120	Ser	Ile	Ala	Glu	Ala 125	Ala	Ser	Phe
Ser	Gly 130	Glu	Asn	Trp	Leu	Gln 135	Ala	Asp	Leu	Ser	Gly 140	Gly	Pro	Val	Thr
Lys 145	Ser	Val	Val	Gly	Gly 150	Phe	Val	Arg	Asp	Ser 155	Ser	Gly	Ala	Val	Ser 160
Val	Lys	Lys	Val	Asp 165	Tyr	Ser	Leu	Asn	Thr 170	Asp	Thr	Val	Leu	Phe 175	Asp
Thr	Thr	Gly	Asn 180	Thr	Gly	Ile	Leu	Asp 185	Lys	Val	Tyr	Asn	Val 190	Ser	Gln
Ala	Ser	Val 195	Thr	Leu	Pro	Val	Asn 200	Val	Asn	Gly	Thr	Thr 205	Ser	Glu	Tyr
Thr	Val 210	Gly	Ala	Tyr	Asn	Val 215	Asp	Asp	Leu	Ile	Asp 220	Ala	Ser	Ala	Thr
Phe 225	Asp	Gly	Asp	Tyr	Ala 230	Asn	Val	Gly	Ala	Gly 235	Ala	Leu	Ala	Gly	Asp 240
Tyr	Val	Lys	Val	Gln 245	Gly	Ser	Trp	Val	Lys 250	Ala	Val	Asp	Val	Ala 255	Ala
Thr	Gly	Gln	Glu 260	Val	Val	Tyr	Asp	Asp 265	Gly	Thr	Thr	ГÀа	Trp 270	Gly	Val
Asp	Thr	Thr 275	Val	Thr	Gly	Ala	Pro 280	Ala	Thr	Asn	Val	Ala 285	Ala	Pro	Ala
Ser	Ile 290	Ala	Thr	Ile	Asp	Ile 295	Thr	Ile	Ala	Ala	Gln 300	Ala	Gly	Asn	Leu
Asp 305	Ala	Leu	Ile	Ala	Gly 310	Val	Asp	Glu	Ala	Leu 315	Thr	Asp	Met	Thr	Ser 320
Ala	Ala	Ala	Ser	Leu 325	Gly	Ser	Ile	Ser	Ser 330	Arg	Ile	Asp	Leu	Gln 335	Ser
Asp	Phe		Asn 340		Leu	Ser		Ser 345		Asp	Ser		Val 350		Arg
Leu	Val	Asp 355	Ala	Asp	Met	Asn	Glu 360	Glu	Ser	Thr	Arg	Leu 365	ГÀа	Ala	Leu
Gln	Thr 370	Gln	Gln	Gln	Leu	Ala 375	Ile	Gln	Ala	Leu	Ser 380	Ile	Ala	Asn	Ser
Asp 385	Ser	Gln	Asn	Val	Leu 390	Ser	Leu	Phe	Arg						
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Leu	Arg	Ser	Ile 20	Ala	Ser	Asp	Leu	Ser 25	Thr	Thr	Gln	Asp	Arg 30	Ile	Ser

Lett arg Ser lie Ala Ser Asp Lett Ser inr inr Gin Asp Arg lie Ser 20 25 30

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Ser Gly Leu Lys Val Gly Ser Ala Ser Asp Asn Ala Ala Tyr Trp Ser Ile Ala Thr Thr Met Arg Ser Asp Asn Lys Ala Leu Gly Ala Val Ser Asp Ala Leu Gly Met Gly Ala Ala Lys Val Asp Thr Ala Ser Ala Gly Met Asp Ala Ala Ile Lys Val Val Thr Asp Ile Lys Ala Lys Val Val Ala Ala Lys Glu Gln Gly Val Asp Lys Thr Lys Val Gln Glu Glu Val Ser Gln Leu Leu Asp Gln Leu Lys Ser Ile Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Phe Asn Gly Glu Asn Trp Leu Val Ser Ser Ala Asn Ala Thr Lys Thr Val Val Ser Gly Phe Val Arg Asp Ala Gly Gly Thr Val Ser Val Lys Thr Thr Asp Tyr Ala Leu Asp Ala Asn Ser Met Leu Tyr Thr Glu Gly Thr Pro Gly Thr Ile Asp Ala Asn Ser Gly Ile Leu Asn Ala Thr Gly Ala Thr Thr Thr Val Gly Ala Lys Thr Tyr Thr Gln Ile Ser Val Leu Asp 200  $\hbox{Met Asn Val Gly Thr Asp Asp Leu Asp Asn Ala Leu Tyr Ser Val Glu}\\$ 215 Thr Ala Leu Thr Lys Met Thr Ser Ala Gly Ala Lys Leu Gly Ser Leu Ser Ala Arg Ile Asp Leu Gln Ser Gly Phe Ala Asp Lys Leu Ser Asp 250 Thr Ile Glu Lys Gly Val Gly Arg Leu Val Asp Ala Asp Met Asn Glu 265 Glu Ser Thr Lys Leu Lys Ala Leu Gln Thr Gln Gln Gln Leu Ala Ile 280 Gln Ala Leu Ser Ile Ala Asn Ser Asp Ser Gln Asn Ile Leu Ser Leu 295 Phe Arg 305 <210> SEQ ID NO 31 <211> LENGTH: 410 <212> TYPE: PRT <213 > ORGANISM: R. lupini <400> SEQUENCE: 31 Met Ala Ser Val Leu Thr Asn Ile Asn Ala Met Ser Ala Leu Gln Thr Leu Arg Ser Ile Ser Ser Asn Met Glu Asp Thr Gln Ser Arg Ile Ser 25 Ser Gly Met Arg Val Gly Ser Ala Ser Asp Asn Ala Ala Tyr Trp Ser 40 Ile Ala Thr Thr Met Arg Ser Asp Asn Ala Ser Leu Ser Ala Val Gln Asp Ala Ile Gly Leu Gly Ala Ala Lys Val Asp Thr Ala Ser Ala Gly Met Asp Ala Val Ile Asp Val Val Lys Gln Ile Lys Asn Lys Leu Val 90

Thr Ala Gln Glu Ser Ser Ala Asp Lys Thr Lys Ile Gln Gly Glu Val 105 Lys Gln Leu Gln Glu Gln Leu Lys Gly Ile Val Asp Ser Ala Ser Phe Ser Gly Glu Asn Trp Leu Lys Gly Asp Leu Ser Thr Thr Thr Lys Ser Val Val Gly Ser Phe Val Arg Glu Gly Gly Thr Val Ser Val Lys Thr Ile Asp Tyr Ala Leu Asn Ala Ser Lys Val Leu Val Asp Thr Arg Ala Thr Gly Thr Lys Thr Gly Ile Leu Asp Thr Ala Tyr Thr Gly Leu Asn Ala Asn Thr Val Thr Val Asp Ile Asn Lys Gly Gly Val Ile Thr Gln Ala Ser Val Arg Ala Tyr Ser Thr Asp Glu Met Leu Ser Leu Gly 215 Ala Lys Val Asp Gly Ala Asn Ser Asn Val Ala Val Gly Gly Ser 230 235 Ala Phe Val Lys Val Asp Gly Ser Trp Val Lys Gly Ser Val Asp Ala 250 Ala Ala Ser Ile Thr Ala Ser Thr Pro Val Ala Gly Lys Phe Ala Ala 265 Ala Tyr Thr Ala Ala Glu Ala Gly Thr Ala Ala Ala Gly Asp Ala 280 Ile Ile Val Asp Glu Thr Asn Ser Gly Ala Gly Ala Val Asn Leu Thr 295 Gln Ser Val Leu Thr Met Asp Val Ser Ser Met Ser Ser Thr Asp Val 310 Gly Ser Tyr Leu Thr Gly Val Glu Lys Ala Leu Thr Ser Leu Thr Ser 330 Ala Gly Ala Glu Leu Gly Ser Ile Lys Gln Arg Ile Asp Leu Gln Val 345 Asp Phe Ala Ser Lys Leu Gly Asp Ala Leu Ala Lys Gly Ile Gly Arg Leu Val Asp Ala Asp Met Asn Glu Glu Ser Thr Lys Leu Lys Ala Leu Gln Thr Gln Gln Gln Leu Ala Ile Gln Ser Leu Ser Ile Ala Asn Ser Asp Ser Gln Asn Ile Leu Ser Leu Phe Arg 405 <210> SEQ ID NO 32 <211> LENGTH: 287 <212> TYPE: PRT <213 > ORGANISM: L. monocytogenes <400> SEQUENCE: 32 Met Lys Val Asn Thr Asn Ile Ile Ser Leu Lys Thr Gln Glu Tyr Leu 1.0 Arg Lys Asn Asn Glu Gly Met Thr Gln Ala Gln Glu Arg Leu Ala Ser Gly Lys Arg Ile Asn Ser Ser Leu Asp Asp Ala Ala Gly Leu Ala Val Val Thr Arg Met Asn Val Lys Ser Thr Gly Leu Asp Ala Ala Ser Lys

	50					55					60				
Asn 65	Ser	Ser	Met	Gly	Ile 70	Asp	Leu	Leu	Gln	Thr 75	Ala	Asp	Ser	Ala	Leu 80
Ser	Ser	Met	Ser	Ser 85	Ile	Leu	Gln	Arg	Met 90	Arg	Gln	Leu	Ala	Val 95	Gln
Ser	Ser	Asn	Gly 100	Ser	Phe	Ser	Asp	Glu 105	Asp	Arg	Lys	Gln	Tyr 110	Thr	Ala
Glu	Phe	Gly 115	Ser	Leu	Ile	Lys	Glu 120	Leu	Asp	His	Val	Ala 125	Asp	Thr	Thr
Asn	Tyr 130	Asn	Asn	Ile	Lys	Leu 135	Leu	Asp	Gln	Thr	Ala 140	Thr	Gly	Ala	Ala
Thr 145	Gln	Val	Ser	Ile	Gln 150	Ala	Ser	Asp	Lys	Ala 155	Asn	Asp	Leu	Ile	Asn 160
Ile	Asp	Leu	Phe	Asn 165	Ala	Lys	Gly	Leu	Ser 170	Ala	Gly	Thr	Ile	Thr 175	Leu
Gly	Ser	Gly	Ser 180	Thr	Val	Ala	Gly	Tyr 185	Ser	Ala	Leu	Ser	Val 190	Ala	Asp
Ala	Asp	Ser 195	Ser	Gln	Glu	Ala	Thr 200	Glu	Ala	Ile	Asp	Glu 205	Leu	Ile	Asn
Asn	Ile 210	Ser	Asn	Gly	Arg	Ala 215	Leu	Leu	Gly	Ala	Gly 220	Met	Ser	Arg	Leu
Ser 225	Tyr	Asn	Val	Ser	Asn 230	Val	Asn	Asn	Gln	Ser 235	Ile	Ala	Thr	Lys	Ala 240
Ser	Ala	Ser	Ser	Ile 245	Glu	Asp	Ala	Asp	Met 250	Ala	Ala	Glu	Met	Ser 255	Glu
Met	Thr	Lys	Tyr 260	Lys	Ile	Leu	Thr	Gln 265	Thr	Ser	Ile	Ser	Met 270	Leu	Ser
~ · · ·	77-	7 an	<b>G1</b>	m1	_	<b>-</b>		_		<b>~</b> 1	T 011	т1.	7	Com	
GIN	AIA	275	GIII	Thr	Pro	Gln	Met 280	Leu	Thr	GIN	ьеи	285	ASII	ser	
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Met 145	Ala	Ala	Gly	Tyr	Arg 150	Arg	Glu	Gly	Thr	Ala 155	Val	Tyr	Val	Asp	Met 160
Ile	Asp	Val	Gly	Gly 165	Ser	Glu	Leu	Asn	Phe 170	Gly	Thr	Ile	Gly	Ser 175	Asp
Gly	Thr	Ile	Asp 180	Met	Ser	Gln	Gly	Val 185	Leu	Gly	Gly	Ile	Phe 190	Gly	Thr
Ser	Lys	Gly 195	Asp	Glu	Gly	Glu	Asp 200	Val	Val	Gly	Lys	Gly 205	Ile	Gly	Ala
Phe	Ser 210	Ala	Ala	His	Ala	Thr 215	Tyr	Lys	Gly	Leu	Glu 220	Asp	Thr	Leu	Arg
Asn 225	Ala	Glu	Ala	Asp	Leu 230	Ala	Lys	Ala	Ile	Ala 235	ГÀа	Tyr	Gly	Glu	Ser 240
Pro	Glu	Asp	Glu	Pro 245	Gly	Lys	Ala	Ile	Ile 250	Glu	Lys	Ala	Lys	Gln 255	Ala
Val	Glu	Thr	Ala 260	Lys	Thr	Gly	Leu	Lys 265	Asp	Gly	Gln	Glu	Ala 270	Tyr	Asn
Lys	Ala	Lys 275	Gly	Glu	Phe	Gln	Thr 280	Val	Leu	Asp	Gly	Met 285	Thr	Leu	Ala
Asp	Phe 290	Thr	Glu	Leu	Lys	Gly 295	Leu	Gly	Glu	Leu	His 300	Ser	Asp	Ile	Gln
Arg 305	Met	Ile	Met	Thr	Ser 310	Val	Gln	Asn	Thr	Val 315	Arg	Asp	Ala	Val	Asn 320
Val	Thr	Leu	Thr	Ala 325	Gly	Ser	Lys	Ile	Gly 330	Ala	Ala	Val	Asn	Leu 335	Val
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Gly	Ile	Gly 355	Ala	Leu	Val	Asp	Ala 360	Asp	Met	Asn	Ala	Glu 365	Ser	Ala	Lys
Leu	Ala 370	Ala	Leu	Gln	Val	Gln 375	Gln	Gln	Leu	Gly	Ile 380	Gln	Ala	Leu	Ser
Ile 385	Ala	Asn	Gln	Gly	Ser 390	Gln	Asn	Ile	Leu	Ala 395	Leu	Phe	Arg	Asn	
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1				5					10			•		15	
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Ala	Gly	Met 35	Ala	Ile	Ala	Arg	Leu 40	Ser	Gln	Val	Arg	Gly 45	Leu	Gln	Ala
Thr	Arg 50	Asn	Ala	Asn	Asp	Gly 55	Ile	Ser	Ile	Leu	Gln 60	Thr	Ala	Glu	Gly
Ala 65	Leu	Glu	Ile	Leu	Gln 70	Arg	Ile	Arg	Asp	Leu 75	Val	Gln	Ala	Asn	Gly 80
Thr	Gln	Ser	Asp	Arg 85	Ile	Gln	Glu	Ile	Gln 90	Leu	Met	Glu	Glu	Ile 95	Asp
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Gly Ala Val Gln Asn Arg Val Asp Ile Asn Leu Glu Asn Leu Ala Ala
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The invention claimed is:

1. A method to stimulate a TLRS-mediated enhancement of an antigen specific immune response in subject which method comprises administering to said subject said antigen along with a flagellin polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID 55 NO:11-SEQ ID NO:34, and

wherein said flagellin polypeptide does not contain said antigen.

- 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said flagellin polypeptide consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:11- SEQ ID NO:34.
- 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the flagellin polypeptide further comprises an ADCC targeting molecule.
- 4. The method of claim 1 wherein said antigen is selected from the group consisting of polypeptides, polysaccharides,

- 50 pathologically aberrant cells, inactivated and attenuated viruses or bacteria, nucleic acids and toxoids.
  - 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the flagellin polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:13 SEQ ID NO:33.
  - **6**. The method of claim **5** wherein the flagellin polypeptide further comprises an ADCC targeting molecule.
  - 7. The method of claim 5 wherein said antigen is selected from the group consisting of polypeptides, polysaccharides, pathologically aberrant cells, inactivated and attenuated viruses or bacteria, nucleic acids and toxoids.
  - **8**. The method of claim **1** wherein the flagellin polypeptide consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:13 SEQ ID NO:33.

\* \* \* \* \*